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INVASION RUMOUR.

HUNANESE RE-ENTER KWANGTUNG?

CANTON NOT ALARMED.

Yunnanese Mercenaries Too Poor To Fight.

NO CHANGE IN YANGTZE SITUATION OR CENTRAL CHINA.

Unconfirmed reports from the north of Kwangtung province state that the Hunanese column which opposes the Canton Government and supports Chiang Kai-shek has again crossed the frontier and attacked the Cantonese defence garrison.

Military news is scarce but alarm is not felt in Canton where the authorities have a few brigades which can be sent up to the war zone. The fact that no reinforcements have been sent shows that there is no anxiety.

The Canton Government's campaign against suspected Communists in the city continues unabated. However, Reds are reported to have broken out in two parts of the province, which are far from each other.

Naval wireless intelligence is to the effect that there is no change in the Yangtze or Central China situation and, in such cases, no news is generally the best news.

MARKET TOWN "TAKEN."

Lokcheong, a market town on the North River, about 180 miles north of Canton, is rumored to have been entered by the Hunanese without a struggle, the garrison falling back on account of the compromising attitude of the Yunnanese mercenaries who maintain that Canton must pay them first before they will fight. However, the rumour lacks confirmation and should only be accepted with reserve.

Very little authentic intelligence has trickled through from the war zone in southern Hunan—where are a number of British and other missionaries—but it does seem that the Hunanese have put a considerable distance between themselves and General Pei Chung-hai who is pursuing them towards Kwangtung.

CANTON'S RED.

Held in Check But Break Out Elsewhere.

At least five raids on premises suspected to be Communist hiding-places were made by the Canton city police yesterday and the anti-Red comb-out continues unabated.

From Hoihow and Kwongning Canton has received urgent calls for help as semi-hand-and-Red forces are active. Hoihow is the port of Hainan Island, south of and forming a part of Kwangtung province; Hoihow is on the northern shore of the island and is in regular steamship communication with Hong Kong. Kwongning is in that vague area generally known as up-country. It is a district in the west-centre of Kwangtung, not far from the West River port of Wuchow and Kwangsi province.

HUNAN WAR.

Canton's Allies Moving South.

General Pei Chung-hai, the ally of the Canton Government, who is attacking the Hunanese forces in the south of Hunan, is reported by the "Kung Sheng Yat Po" to have taken the field command in person. Staff headquarters has been moved down to Siangtan and the vanguard is making for Ninghsiang.

The messages referred to may indicate progress for Canton's friends but they also point to the anti-Hunanese army not having reached Hengchow, which is 100 miles from Kwangtung's northern frontier.

Not Caught Up Yet.

Between Hengchow and Kwangtung province, the Hunanese have at least one column of about 10,000 men which actually crossed the boundary and invaded the domains of Canton. This invasion was repulsed but later reports, referred to above, hint that a second invasion is mooted. And Canton's allies, who are in the rear of the Hunanese, have not caught up yet.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Officials of the Nationalist Government.

Shanghai, Yesterday. A telegram from Nanking

states that it has been decided that the Nationalist Government Council shall consist of 49 members, of whom the Standing Committee will comprise General Tan Yen-kai as chairman, General Li Lich-chun, Tsui Yuan-pai, Chang Ching-kiang and Yu Yueh-jen, while the Military Council totals 73 with a Standing Committee of 12 leading Nationalist Generals with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek as chairman.—Reuter.

[Note: Few if any of the appointments have caused surprise. The appointees are mostly partisans of Chiang Kai-shek or politicians who have been at Nanking for some time.]

MUKDEN'S PLIGHT.

Authorities Exert Pressure on Financiers.

Mukden, Feb. 1.

Several Chinese exchange brokers and wealthy merchants were taken into custody this morning by Chinese police authorities on charges of having disturbed the monetary situation.

As all the Chinese shop-keepers are now refusing to accept the Fengtien paper money in their transactions, the lower classes are in extreme distress. The labourers recently submitted a demand to their employers, asking for adoption of a system of paying wages with gold or silver coins, but as their demand was not entertained by their employers, discontent prevails among the poor.—Toho.

TIENTSIN "SQUEEZE."

Chinese Authorities Demand Special Tax.

Tientsin, Feb. 2.

On January 28 the Chinese administration of the former Russian Concession circumscribed Chinese and foreign residents and firms in that area demanding the payment, within a week, of a special "Anti-Red Tax" amounting to two and a half times the Rental Tax for last year.

Yesterday the Chinese administration of the former German Concession circularised foreigners owning property in that area demanding the production of their title-deeds for examination with a view to the payment of a special rental tax.

Foreign Protest Urged.

There is considerable agitation here among foreigners, who consider that the demand is unwarranted.

In addition to Chinese and others not enjoying extraterritorial rights many British, American and French persons and firms own property in these areas and would be seriously affected by the imposition of the proposed tax.

The "Peking and Tientsin Times" in the course of an editorial to-day, strongly urges all foreign residents to protest against the proposed action of the Chinese authorities and resist the latest attempt to impose illegal taxation.

BIGGER PROFITS.

Humphreys Estate and Finance Co.

CHAIRMAN'S BRIEF SPEECH.

Annual Review Takes Less Than A Minute.

What has probably been the shortest speech for some considerable time by a chairman at the annual meeting of a local public company was delivered by Mr. Henry Humphreys to-day, when presiding at the annual meeting of Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd., held this morning at the Hong Kong Hotel.

Mr. Humphreys' address took less than a minute and the proceedings were completed in remarkably quick time. However, this is not a "company meeting record" as there is one of some years ago which lasted less than a minute all told.

Profits Increased.

Supporting Mr. Humphreys were Mr. C. G. S. Mackie, Mr. J. Scott Harston and Mr. J. M. Alves (directors), Mr. G. Rapp (secretary). Shareholders present were Messrs. M. Manuk, A. P. Samy, Frank Austin, D. E. Clarke and J. D. Humphreys.

The convening notice was read by the secretary. The report, accounts and auditors' report for 1927 were taken as read. Mr. Humphreys then read his review, as follows:—

"The accounts are simplicity itself and call for little comment."

"The net profit for the year shows an increase of \$5,533.81 over the previous year which your directors think is quite satisfactory."

New May Road Flats.

"You will note that Typhoon and Floods Insurance Fund, and Special Repairs and Renewals Fund have been depleted by \$2,092.62 and \$18,680.41 respectively. The latter was larger than usual, as last year we had to give the periodical overhaul to the following buildings—Carnarvon Buildings, Humphreys Buildings, Nathan Road buildings, 'Abertholwyn' and 'Ian Mor'."

"I trust that you will approve of the proposed appropriations which will restore these funds to their former figures."

"The only building operation undertaken during the year under review is the construction of four residential flats on May Road. These are now half completed and should be ready for occupation in July next."

Shareholder's Tribute.

"I have no further comment to make, gentlemen, and after the accounts have been proposed and seconded I shall be pleased to answer any question shareholders may put in regard to same."

Mr. Humphreys then proposed that the report and accounts be adopted and passed. Mr. Austin seconded, adding: "I think that all shareholders are satisfied and pleased with the result of the year's working." No question was put and the report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

Other Business.

Other business transacted at the meeting comprised:—

Re-election of the retiring directors, Messrs. J. Scott Harston, W. L. Pattenden, J. M. Alves, C. G. S. Mackie—proposed by the chairman, seconded by Mr. M. Manuk.

Re-election of Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth and Fleming and Messrs. Linstead and Davis as auditors for the ensuing year, at a remuneration of \$250 each firm—proposed by Mr. A. P. Samy, seconded by Mr. J. D. Humphreys. Dividend warrants can be had on application.

BRITISH LEGION.

INVITATION TO ADMIRAL EARL JELlicoe.

London, Yesterday.

The National Executive Council of the British Legion has invited Admiral Earl Jellicoe to become President of the Legion in succession to the late Earl Haig.—Reuter.

SIR M. LAMPSON.

MINISTER ARRIVES AT NINGPO.

Ningpo, Yesterday.

Sir Miles Lampson has arrived from Tsingtao aboard H.M.S. "Foxglove".—Reuter.

900 PER CENT!

Alleged Fraud Against Employee.

LOCAL FIRM'S SUIT.

Judge's Surprise At Failure To Check Bills.

A former employee of local manufacturers was alleged at the Supreme Court this morning to have defrauded his employers of over \$13,000, charging freight at in some cases, five, seven and even nine times the amount actually paid to the shipping agents.

His Lordship described as "remarkable" the failure of the employers to detect the frauds during a period of years and expressed wonder that disaster had not overtaken them as a business concern.

Plaintiffs in the case were the Kwong Sang-hong firm of 250—252 Des Voeux Road, Central, and they sued the employee in question—

DR. C. C. WU.

Fired On At Singapore.

ASSAILANT ARRESTED.

Singapore, Yesterday.

Dr. C. C. Wu, the prominent member of the Kuomintang and ex-Foreign Minister of the Nanking Government, who is now in Singapore with other Nationalist leaders who are on a world tour was fired on when leaving the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. He was not injured. Mr. Lim Boon-keng, ex-principal of the Amoy University, was slightly wounded.

The assailant was arrested.—Reuter.

Chan Kau (alias Chan Sai-fong)—for \$13,196.55, the amount he is alleged to have defrauded them of.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin appeared on behalf of plaintiffs.

The defendant was neither present nor represented.

Counsel stated that the action was of an unusual nature in that the acts under which the plaintiffs claimed constituted a felony. Plaintiffs were well-known local manufacturers and wholesale dealers in perfumery, soap and other toilet requisites and as part of their business they shipped large quantities of these products to ports of Northern China.

Affluent Appearance.

For the purpose of carrying on that part of the business they employed the defendant as tallyman at a salary of \$21 a month. Defendant had been in their employ for a great number of years. In August of last year, the defendant's appearance of affluent caused the plaintiffs to interrogate him as to how it was that he appeared to be in a position other than that in which a man at his rate of pay

FRESH WIND, OVERCAST.

North-east winds, fresh, overcast, till noon to-morrow.

The anticyclone has weakened slightly and is now central to the north of Shanghai. Fresh monsoon may be expected along the S.E. coast of China and over the China Sea.

should be. Defendant's reply was that he was proprietor of the Yue Fung Yuen firm, and that he was carrying on trade as a merchant in Hong Kong.

Plaintiffs, however, were not satisfied with his explanation and they discharged him. As a result, another person was employed as tallyman to look after the shipment of goods and it then transpired that the defendant had been defrauding them for a number of years, at least for three years, the sum total amounting to that claimed in the writ.

"Pocket The Difference."

The method by which the defendant obtained these amounts was as follows, stated counsel. It was his duty when the plaintiffs wanted to ship goods, to go to the shipping agents and arrange with them for goods to be shipped to their required destination. When these arrangements were complete, he would get from the shipping agents a debit note for the amount of freight. Assuming such to have

PEAK GARAGE.

H.K. Land Investment Venture.

ANNUAL MEETING TO-DAY.

Appreciation Of Work Of Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Bernard.

The purchase of Prince's Building, the completion of arrangements for erecting a garage at the Peak, half way between the Hotel and Mt. Kellett Road, and an appeal against a Court decision in favour of the Company relative to the rights of appointment of a successor to the late Sir Paul Chater were among the matters referred to at the thirty-ninth annual meeting this morning of the Hong Kong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.

Appreciation was expressed of the work of the Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Bernard, Chairman, who is shortly leaving the Colony to take up an appointment with Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. in London.

Supporting the Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Bernard were Mr. A. H. Compston, Mr. H. L. White, Mr. A. S. Gubbay and Mr. J. E. Joseph (Directors), Mr. L. S. Greenhill (Secretary), and the following shareholders:—Messrs. W. S. Bailey, H. A. Rogers, B. W. Tapp, W. H. Bell, A. C. Kennedy, W. E. L. Shenton, J. H. Tarrant, N. V. A. Croucher, C. S. dos Remedios, O. F. Ribeiro, P. S. Cassidy, T. G. Weall, J. M. Alves, Fung Kang-ung, D. V. Stevenson, F. Austin, H. Denny, A. P. Samy, B. C. Randall and J. T. Bagram.

Chairman's Speech.

The Chairman's speech was as follows: The amount available for appropriation, including \$895,991.82 brought forward from the previous year, is \$1,421,291.48—this after payment of the interim dividend in August last of \$2 per share absorbing \$480,000. Your directors recommend a final dividend of \$2 per share, the same as last year, a bonus to staff of \$3,000 and a balance amounting to \$933,219.48 to be carried forward, and I trust shareholders will approve of these appropriations.

During the year an opportunity occurred of acquiring Prince's Building, with all its recent improvements and on which we had a mortgage of \$1,500,000, for \$3,000,000. After carefully considering the matter from every point of view under present prevailing conditions, your directors decided to effect the purchase and I think you will agree that it makes a very fine and important addition to the Company's properties in the central district. You will notice that to facilitate the finance of this transaction a mortgage of \$650,000 which was in existence in addition to ours already mentioned has been carried on.

\$1,500,000 Mortgage.

We also had a mortgage of \$1,500,000 on K.M.L. 49 but when repayment was due we could get no satisfaction from the mortgagors and as interest was months behindhand, we sold the property by auction with a reserve sufficient to cover the principal and outstanding interest. It was bought by the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd. However, they needed only the front portion of the lot consisting of vacant land, and gave us the opportunity of purchasing from them the rear portion consisting of 111 houses at cost. This offer was accepted and we were thus able to acquire at a reasonable price a property with good prospects of substantial future appreciation.

The purchase of some property at Wanchai which we had sold during the boom, allowing him to leave part of the purchase money on mortgage, defaulted and we had to re-enter. The resulting value in our books was rather high so your Directors decided to allocate \$50,000 from last year's profits to writing down the property to a more reasonable figure.

The foregoing are the principal causes of the amount advanced on Mortgages falling from \$1,140,599.23 to \$6,144,957.86 and "Amount Invested in Property" increasing from \$5,340,030.37 to \$9,111,286.20 during the year.

Garage at the Peak.

Arrangements have just been completed for the erection of a Garage at the Peak to meet the need for more accommodation for cars. It will be built on the open space on Chamberlain Road half way between the Peak Hotel and Mt. Kellett Road. The building will be commenced almost immediately and be completed towards the end of the year. It is planned as a two-storey building but the upper storey will not be proceeded with until the demand for space warrants such development. The ground-floor will have fourteen private lock-ups and in addition will be able to garage fifteen cars, allowing all of them clear access to their individual parking spaces, this is without taking into consideration

BRITAIN AND CHINA.

STATEMENT BY FOREIGN SECRETARY.

DIFFICULTIES ADMITTED.

No Immediate Surrender of British Rights.

FAILURE OF CHINESE RULE IN FORMER CONCESSIONS.

In the course of the debate following the King's speech upon the opening of Parliament, Sir Austen Chamberlain, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, made a long statement regarding China.

He admitted the difficulties in the way of the carrying out of our policy towards China, but said that some progress had been made. Reference was made to the two and a half per cent. surtax and the question of extraterritoriality, in regard to which he said it was hardly possible to make any further advance at present in respect to the surrender of our existing rights.

Dealing with the surrender of the Hankow and Kiukiang Concessions, Sir Austen blamed the civil war in China for preventing the Chinese from discharging their obligations.

On the whole, he considered that the situation was much better than it was a year ago.

Sir Austen touched upon Anglo-American relations in the course of his address.

IMPROVED SITUATION.

London, Yesterday.

On the resumption of the debate on the Royal Address, Sir Austen Chamberlain made a statement on foreign affairs and reaffirmed that our policy was animated with goodwill and friendship for China and its aspirations. It was most difficult to carry out the policy while the Chinese were unable to provide a stable and settled government, but we had made some progress.

Surtaxes.

In view of the long delay in carrying out the Washington Convention, Britain was not justified in withholding her consent to the collection of the 2½ per cent. surtaxes agreed upon there, but objected to illegal levies over and above those.

Surtaxes were cropping up in different parts of China. Britain would not object to tariff autonomy based on a uniform national tariff which would not discriminate against British merchants and administered fairly.

It was for the Chinese themselves to agree on this important question, and when they had agreed—he was happy to say there had been lately some signs of such agreement—then Britain would help them and would not adopt an obstructive attitude.

Similarly, in the face of difficulties, we had made progress in connection with Extraterritoriality. We were ready to apply the existing modern Chinese civil and commercial code in the British courts, but as the Chinese codes were in nowise complete, it was hardly possible to make a further advance in the direction of the surrender of our existing rights while the system was still half-complete and suffering from a division of authority.

A third branch programme was the surrender of our special rights in British Concessions.

He wished he could give a more satisfactory account of the state of affairs in Hankow and Kiukiang since the surrender of those Concessions. The chaotic civil war had immensely impeded the Chinese efficiently discharging the obligations devolving on them from the moment we surrendered any of those privileges.

NURSE CAVELL.

GERMAN OBJECTION TO FILM.

REVIVING PAINFUL MEMORIES.

London, Yesterday.

The proposed exhibition in London of a British film dealing with the execution of Nurse Cavell has led to an official German protest.

The Foreign Office at Berlin has issued a statement that the German Ambassador at London and the German Minister at Brussels are endeavouring to prevent the exhibition of the film, which can only revive painful memories and embitter relations between the countries.—Reuter.

He could only watch the development of affairs and proceed on that path as circumstances might render further progress possible.

Nanking Outrages.

The Defence Force had already been reduced to 4,500 and orders had been given for the withdrawal of another battalion. He would be very happy when conditions of order and security enabled a total withdrawal, but that time had not come.

He regretted the failure of any Chinese authority hitherto to give satisfaction for the outrages at Nanking. Even at the present moment Chinese troops wrongfully and unlawfully occupied the British Consulate.

The situation was undoubtedly better than last year. The anti-British character of the agitation had changed and the Chinese were beginning to acquire a better appreciation of the goodwill of the British Government and people.

Geneva.

He defended the Government against the charges of the Opposition regarding Geneva. No doubt the United States bitterly regretted the failure of the honest efforts of all three parties on the advance work begun at Washington. He thought the Government was well advised not to take up the subject again at present, but hoped the participants in the Conference and also other interested Governments might learn from the failure that when the time came to review the Washington Convention, and as he hoped to make a new one, they might profit from the lessons of the past and succeed where last year they failed.

Anglo-American Negotiations.

He emphasised that war with the United States was unthinkable, and the prospect thereof or preparation therefor had never been and never would be a basis of British policy. British ship-building was uncompetitive, and our programmes were framed solely with a view to the necessary protection of British interests.

In the meantime there were other Anglo-American negotiations pending, namely an arbitration treaty which America had submitted to Britain and which was identical with that submitted to the French Government. But the new Franco-American treaty was not the same as the original draft, the exact contents of which Sir Austen Chamberlain had not yet been apprised. But the new treaty, like the old, was not an unlimited treaty of arbitration on every difficulty. They would have to enter into the fullest correspondence and consultation with the Dominion Governments before answering the American proposals.

Naval Programme.

Sir Austen Chamberlain said the Government's naval programmes were framed with a view to the necessary protection of British interests. The Government's action in modifying the cruiser programme sufficiently showed that the failure of the Geneva Conference has not lessened the desire to modify naval construction.—Reuter.

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LYONS
MADRID
PARIS
SANTO DOMINGO
SINGAPORE
Tientsin
Yokohama

Every description of Banking and
Exchange Business Transacted. Cor-
respondents throughout the world.

A. ROLLIN,
Manager.
Hong Kong, 1st January, 1928.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF
INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

Authorized Capital \$20,000,000
Paid-up Capital \$10,000,000
Reserve Funds \$10,000,000

Reserve Liability of Proprietors \$10,000,000

LIKE "PATIENCE."

BUSINESS MEN'S VIEWS OF
1927 TRADE.

SORTING OUT SEQUENCES.

The state of trade in 1927 has been such that some business men may have been driven to taste the pleasures of that class of one-man card game known as "Patience," normally the province of elderly ladies, invalids and others with more leisure than vitality, says the Manchester Chamber of Commerce "Monthly Record."

For the benefit of the uninitiated we may say that all games of patience consist in essence of shuffling packs of cards and endeavoring to sort them out into sequence and doing it, but by all manner of devious methods governed by rules which constitute artificial obstacles to the end in view.

Convenience and Dispatch.

If you are lucky you find a way through, round, or over these obstacles and produce your four suits in perfect order. If you are unlucky—and this is most frequently the case—you find yourself blocked by one of the rules of the game. The proper thing to do is to sigh heavily and mix the cards once more preparatory to starting again at the beginning. In card games the means are more important than the end, so little is lost by these rebuffs: if the end were your only consideration you would sweep the silly rules on one side and proceed with the task on the obvious lines of convenience and dispatch.

Artificial Obstacles.

Those who have played this game at the card table may be prepared to agree with us that the world at large, this country and the Lancashire trade, all seem during 1927 to have been following very similar methods of dealing with the much graver problems of trade recovery. A World Economic Conference meets in May and says in the clearest manner that it is the artificial obstacles and barriers to trade which more than anything else are preventing general prosperity. But the world's patience players feel that life would lose its savour if these ingenious complications were no longer allowed to engage our wits in long-drawn-out struggles with our saner impulses.

More Common Sense.

So instead of hastening to remove the barriers, we hear much talk of strengthening them and only a few bodies like the Manchester Chamber of Commerce with more common sense and less respect for worn-out shibboleths continue to urge the acceptance of these principles. How similar have been the methods employed in this country of dealing with several of our national problems. The much-needed national economy, the much to be desired reduction in armaments, the encouragement of trade, the cultivation of effective co-operation between employers and employed: in all these matters we have seen old and out-worn conventions, threadbare rules of precedent and procedure standing between us and that direct approach to a straightforward solution which we ordinary folk feel to be so much more desirable.

Short Cuts Rare.

We do not overlook the fact that many games look simple to the spectator and that only the experienced player knows their pitfalls. We know that in the final analysis, life only rarely offers short cuts and many of the circuitous methods which have held up progress in 1927 are doubtless inevitable. All the same it is wise sometimes to disregard the reservations with which the philosophic weaken half their conclusions and in many present-day problems we think the fresh air of a little rule-breaking, a determination to part with precedent, would help to make 1928 achieve more than has been the lot of the closing year.

Breaking the Rules.

If the Lancashire cotton trade felt inclined to act on this advice, they might find that by one of its most important achievements in 1927 the Manchester Chamber of Commerce had greatly assisted it. If you are going to break a rule in the Patience game it is well to know which rule to break and when to break it in order to reap the maximum advantage. The Cotton Trade Statistical Bureau which the Chamber has successfully launched should help Lancashire to know where, when and how rule-breaking will pay her best.

We hope we shall not be considered revolutionary if, as the world is shuffling the cards for next year's game, we venture to suggest that each of us should make up our mind that this time we will make the puzzle straighten out, even at the cost of a little determined rule-breaking.

COMMERCE
AND
FINANCE.

H.K. & S. BANK.

DIVIDEND AND BONUS
FOR 1927.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The report for the year ended Dec. 31, 1927, of the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, for presentation to the annual meeting on Feb. 26, reads as follows:—

The net profit for the year, together with \$3,399,065.84, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts and contingencies, amount to \$17,698,353.98.

The directors recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the Profit and Loss Account to the Silver Reserve, which will then stand at \$14,000,000.

They also recommend writing off Bank Premises Account the sum of \$1,000,000.

After making these transfers, deducting the interim dividend of \$3 per share, paid on August 8 last, viz:—\$480,000, at 2/—=\$4,800,000, and remuneration to directors, there remains for appropriation \$11,288,353.98, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of \$3 per share, viz:—\$2,400,000, and a bonus of \$2 per share, viz:—\$2,000,000, amounting in all to \$4,400,000, which, at 2/0%, the rate of the day, will absorb \$7,760,000.

The balance, \$3,411,450.90 to be carried to New Profit and Loss Account.

The sterling equivalents of the assets and liabilities are shown at 2/0%, the rate ruling on the last day of the year.

Directors: Mr. A. H. Compton has been elected chairman for the year, 1928, and Mr. N. S. Brown has been elected deputy chairman.

The Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. J. A. Plummer and Mr. G. M. Young resigned their seats on leaving the Colony and Mr. C. G. S. Mackie, Mr. A. Macgowan and Mr. N. S. Brown were invited to join the Board.

These appointments require confirmation at this meeting.

The Hon. Mr. D. G. M. Bernard, Mr. A. H. Compton and Mr. W. L. Patterson retire in rotation, but being eligible for re-election, offer themselves accordingly.

Auditors: The accounts have been audited by Mr. C. Bernard Brown, A.C.A. and Mr. John Fleming, C.A., who offer themselves for re-election.

D. E. I. OIL.

NETHERLANDS FIRM GETS
CONTRACT.

AMERICAN "GOODWILL."

The Hague, Yesterday.

The Chamber has adopted a bill authorising the Government to conclude contracts with the Netherlands Colonial Petroleum Company for prospecting and exploiting petroleum in Palembang, Rembang and Semarang and Madoera.

Replying to a question as to whether the American Government had appointed a committee to examine how the purchases of American oil by foreign capital might be prevented, the Minister for the Colonies said the lack of goodwill of the American Government had attracted his attention, but since in the course of negotiations regarding the admission of American capital for the exploitation of oil in the Dutch East Indies, America and the Netherlands had agreed on a principle of reciprocity, he was waiting for America to carry out that promise.—Reuter.

\$8 DIVIDEND.

WHARF & GODOWN CO'S
PROFIT.

Subject to audit, the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., report that the balance at Profit and Loss Account for the year ended Dec. 31, 1927, is \$692,305.56, which together with \$322,733.68 brought forward from the previous year makes a total of \$995,039.24 available for appropriation.

The Directors will, at the approaching meeting of shareholders, recommend the following distribution:—

To pay a dividend of \$8 per share \$640,000.00
To carry forward \$355,039.24
\$995,039.24

PETROL MONOPOLY.

POWERS PROTEST TO
SPAIN.

Paris, Yesterday.

The Government has diplomatically protested to Madrid against the petroleum monopoly as detrimental to French interests. It is understood that Britain and the United States have protested on the same grounds.—Reuter.

TARIFF CHANGES.

SUMMARY OF WORLD-WIDE
ITEMS.

IN EFFECT AND PENDING.

Customs and Tariff changes made and pending in different parts of the world are summarised below:—

B. Itish India.—Customs duty exemptions.

Palestine.—Revised duties, details re cotton piece goods.

Austria.—Modification of certain items under general tariff.

France.—Tariff treatment of certain United States and Canadian goods.

Persia.—Compounded road tax.

Australia.—Tariff modifications on numerous classes of goods, including textiles.

Egypt.—Tariff valuations: cotton yarns, from Nov. 9 to March 4 or until denunciation.

Salvador.—Reduced duties, average increase 17 per cent.

Poland.—Proposed valorisation of duties.

France.—Free Consular visa on invoices for British goods, subject to ad valorem duties when value does not exceed 100 francs at gold parity.

Turkey.—Regulations regarding certificates of origin.

CUSTOMS STAFF.

NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS
EMPLOYED.

The fifty-third issue of the

Chinese Maritime Customs "Service List," corrected up to June last, shows a total foreign and Chinese staff of 8,724, of whom

1,184 are foreigners and 7,540 Chinese. Divided into categories, there are in the Revenue Department 1,023 foreigners and 5,592 Chinese. Of the former 263 are on the Indoor Staff, 718 Outdoor, and 42 Coast. The Marine Department, 138 foreigners and 1,930 Chinese; the foreigner staff is employed as follows:—Const. Inspectors, 38;

Harbours, 46; Lights, 49; Marine, 10. The Works Department comprises 23 foreigners and 18 Chinese. The Engineers' Staff comprises 8 foreigners, the Office Staff 1, and the Outdoor Staff 14.

Bahamas.—Entry of goods under British Preferential Tariff.

Canada.—Certificates of Origin for British Colonial goods.

Portugal.—Reduction of certain Consular fees.

Mozambique (Portuguese East Africa).—Proposed new tariff.

HONG KONG TIDE.

The tide-table given below has been obtained by aid of the Tide-predicting Machine, which includes 40 components for the better prediction of tides, from the result of the analysis of the tidal observations, taken at the Kaulung tidal observatory under the direction of Dr. Dohereck during the years 1887, 1888, & 1889.

The times and heights are given for Kaulung; but they may be used for the Victoria Naval yard and Aberdeen, the differences being very small.

The times of high and low water must not be considered to coincide with the times of slack-water and change of current, the two phenomena being quite distinct.

Feb. 8 to 9, 1928.

DATE	HIGH WATER	LOW WATER
Feb.	Standard Times	Standard Times
Fri. 8	3 m 17.4	3 m 21.1
Sat. 9	4 m 10.1	3 m 3.8
Sun. 10	5 m 10.3	3 m 3.0
Mon. 11	6 m 11.0	3 m 4.0
Tues. 12	7 m 11.2	3 m 4.0
Wed. 13	8 m 11.4	3 m 4.0
Thurs. 14	9 m 11.6	3 m 4.0

HONG KONG MARKET PRODUCE.

APPROXIMATE RETAIL PRICES.

Butcher Meat.			
	Jan. 26, June, June, 1928.	1918.	1914.
Beef Sirloin	牛尾	lb. 28 24 12	
" Prime Cut	牛尾	" 28 23 12	
" Corned	牛肉	" 28 23 12	
" Roast	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
" Breast	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
" Soup	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
" Steak	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
" Steak Sirloin	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
" Sausages	牛肉	" 28 24 12	
Bullock's Brains	牛腦	each 65 50 60	

Phone C. 22 FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Twenty-five Words three insertions prepaid \$1. Every additional word four cents for three insertions.

WANTED.

WANTED.—Partner or Compro-dore to put up \$2,000 cash for paying business. Apply Box No. 528, c/o "China Mail."

TO LET.

ROOMS TO LET.—In Private Family. Apply Box No. 526, c/o "China Mail."

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE.—One brass "Hun Ming" pan of the Chinese Han Dynasty with automatic springs. Price \$1,000.00. Apply Box No. 487, c/o "China Mail."

MISCELLANEOUS.

YOUR VISITING CARDS neatly and promptly printed.—"China Mail" Office, No. 3a, Wyndham St., Telephone Central 22.

HOME TUITION.

WESTOVER — STEVENAGE. Within an hour from London. In healthy neighbourhood. SCHOOL for GIRLS and SMALL BOYS. A few Boarders received in the House of the Principal. Individual care and attention. For Particulars apply to:

MISS RUTH CULLEY
(Camb. Higher Local).
(Camb. Teachers' Diploma).
MISS GERTRUDE TURNER
(National Frodel Higher Certificate).

LAMMERT BROS.

AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.

Public Auctions—

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction

ON
Friday, the 10th February, 1928,
commencing at 2.30 p.m.
at their Sales Room, Duddell Street.
A Large and Valuable Collection
of Curios.

Comprising:—
Old Porcelain Vases, Bowls,
Jars, Plates, Ornaments, Old
Bronze Ware, Mandarin Coats,
Skirts, Lacquered Ware, Agate,
Ivory, Jade and Crystal Articles,
etc., etc.

On View from Thursday, the 9th
February, 1928.

Terms:—Cash on Delivery.
LAMMERT BROS.
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, Feb. 6, 1928.

ON
Friday, the 10th February, 1928,
commencing at 5.15 p.m.
at their Sales Room, Duddell Street.
A Valuable Collection of
POSTAGE STAMPS.
(Particulars from Catalogues.)
On View from Thursday, the 9th
February, 1928.

Catalogues will be issued.
Terms:—Cash on Delivery.
LAMMERT BROS.
Auctioneers.
Hong Kong, Feb. 6, 1928.

MARTIN'S PILLS
ADOL
& STEEL
Sure and certain for all female
complaints. Every lady should keep
a box in the house. Chemists and Stores
all over the world.
Prepared by Martin, Chemist, Southampton, Eng.

LADIES' HAIR DRESSERS.

It's the way you
have your HAIR
done that makes it
attractive.

Our barbers are
experts in Bobbing,
Shingling and Wav-
ing.

CAMPBELL MOORE
19, Queen's Road C. Tel. C. 151

UNDERWOOD TYPEWRITERS

Small 3-Bank Portable Model
New 4-Bank Portable Model
and
Standard Office Machines

Every Size always in stock
Suitable for all requirements.

—SOLE AGENTS—
Queen's Building.

DODWELL & CO. LTD.

Ground Floor.
Opposite Ferry Wharf.
Tel. 1030 Central.

PHOTO-SUPPLIES

Kodaks and Cameras.
Films, Plates and Papers, etc.
Developing, Printing and
Enlarging.

ZIESS AND BUSCH
FIELD GLASSES
Price Moderate.

A Trial Order is Solicited.

A. SEK & CO.

Tel. No. C. 3459.
26a, Des Vaux Road C.,
Hong Kong.

NOTICE TO SHIPOWNERS, MASTERS & AGENTS.

The Yuen Wo Seamen's
Institute always has men
available to ship as watch-
men, seamen, &c.

Our men are employed
by the leading passenger
lines. We guarantee satis-
faction.

Please phone or call:—
K.661—No. 2, Saigon
Street, Yaumati or
C.2560—No. 36, Tung
Man Street.

Having Returned from Japan

MRS. INAGUCHI MASSEUSE

HAS RESUMED PRACTICE
AT 6 ASHLEY ROAD,
KOWLOON.
Telephone K. 754.

LESSONS IN CHINESE.

MR. LI HON FUN begs to state
that he has been a teacher of
Chinese to European Officers and
Merchants in Hong Kong for more
than twenty years, that he has had
considerable experience in training
students for examinations in Chinese,
and holds first-class certificates.
Persons wishing to study the
Chinese language are requested to
communicate with him at No. 104,
Praya East, first floor.
Terms moderate.

NOTICES.

RACE HOLIDAYS.

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will
OPEN for the Transaction of
Public Business at 9.30 a.m. on
MONDAY, TUESDAY and WED-
NESDAY, the 13th, 14th and 15th
instant, and CLOSE at 12 NOON.
Hong Kong, 8th February, 1928.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that during the absence of
Mr. A. V. VAN ANDEL,
Mr. F. H. J. A. LAFLEUR will act
as Manager.

HOLLAND CHINA TRADING
CO.
Hong Kong, Feb. 9, 1928.

HONG KONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SHOW OF
FLOWERS AND VEGET-
ABLES will be held at VOLUN-
TEER HEADQUARTERS on
THURSDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY.
ENTRIES will CLOSE at 1 p.m.
on MONDAY, 13th FEBRUARY.
Schedules may be obtained on ap-
plication from the Secretaries, c/o
Bradley & Co., Ltd.

Hong Kong, 7th February, 1928.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE UNDERSIGNED having
been placed on the list of
Authorised Architects on his re-
cent return to the Colony, has
started a Practice and has opened
an office, for the present, in the
China Building (6th floor), Queen's
Road Central, Hong Kong.

J. S. GIBSON,
Architect & Surveyor.
Hong Kong, Feb. 4, 1928.

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

DRAFT PROGRAMMES and
ENTRY FORMS for the
FIRST EXTRA RACE MEETING
to be held on Saturday, 25th
February, 1928 (weather permit-
ting), may be obtained at the Race
Course, Hong Kong Club, and
Causeway Bay Stables.

Entries will close at 12 o'clock
noon on MONDAY, 20th February,
1928.

Hong Kong, 8th February, 1928.

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1928.
13th, 14th, 15th and 16th
February.

MEMBERS' BADGES.

Members' Badges of Admission
are now ready and may be obtain-
ed by those members who have not
already received them, from Messrs.
Linstead & Davis, Alexandra Build-
ings.

Members are reminded that these
Badges will also admit them to all
the Extra Race Meetings of this
year.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Members have the privilege of
introducing two non-members to the
Members' Enclosure.

A limited number of tickets are
available and may be obtained from
Messrs. Linstead & Davis, Alexan-
dra Buildings, on or before SATUR-
DAY, 11th February, 1928, at a cost
of \$10 each per day or \$80 for the
Meeting.

The charge for admission for
Ladies to the Members' Enclosure
will be \$4 per day. Each member
can obtain upon application to the
Secretary, badges for the admission
of two Ladies free of charge. On
no pretext will children be permit-
ted in either enclosure during the
first three days racing.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

Tickets of Admission to the
Public Enclosure, price \$3 per day
for all persons including Ladies, may
be purchased from Messrs. Kelly &
Walsh, Ltd., or at the Gate.

Soldiers' and Sailors' in uniform
admitted to the Public Enclosure at
\$1 per day.

Admission by ticket only.
Bookmakers, Tie Men, etc.,
will not be permitted to operate
within the precincts of the Hong
Kong Jockey Club during the Race
Meeting.

SERVANTS' PASSES.

Passes for Servants will be issued
on application to Messrs. Linstead
& Davis, Alexandra Buildings.

Employers are requested to dis-
tribute them with discrimination,
and to endorse their names on the
Passes.

Servants are not permitted in the
Members' Enclosure except for pass-
ing through on their duties, but
must remain in their employers' stands.

Any persons found loitering about
with Servants' Passes in their pos-
session will forfeit the same and
will be removed from the enclosure.

By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.
Hong Kong, 30th January, 1928.

NOTICES.

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the THIRTIETH OR-
DINARY ANNUAL MEETING of
this Company will be held at the
Office of Messrs. Jardine, Math-
eson & Co., Ltd., on THURSDAY,
the 16th February, 1928, at 12.30
p.m., for the purpose of receiving
the Report of the Directors to-
gether with a Statement of Ac-
counts for the year ended 31st
December, 1927, and if thought fit
to sanction the payment to the
Directors of the yearly sum of
\$1,000.00 as an annual bonus in
addition to the yearly sum of
\$1,000.00 payable to them under
paragraph 96 of the Company's
Articles of Association as from the
1st January, 1928. The purpose
of this is to make effective the
following resolution passed at the
Annual Meeting of the Company
held on 23rd January, 1927:—"That
the Directors' remuneration be in-
creased from \$1,000.00 per annum
to \$2,000.00 per annum."

THE REGISTER OF SHARES of
the Company will be CLOSED
from MONDAY, the 6th February,
1928, to THURSDAY, the 16th
February, 1928, both days in-
clusive.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,
F. H. CRAPNELL,
Secretary.
Hong Kong, 30th January, 1928.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the ORDINARY YEAR-
LY MEETING of the SHARE-
HOLDERS in this Corporation will
be held at City Hall, Hong Kong,
on SATURDAY, the 25th February,
1928, at Noon, for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the Court
of Directors together with a State-
ment of Accounts for the year
ending 31st December, 1927.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of
the Corporation will be CLOSED
from MONDAY, the 13th February,
1928 (both days inclusive) during
which period no transfer of shares
can be registered.

By Order of the Court of
Directors,
A. C. HYNES,
Chief Manager.
Hong Kong, 6th February, 1928.

HONG KONG TRAMWAYS, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the ORDINARY YEAR-
LY GENERAL MEETING of Hong
Kong Tramways, Limited, will be
held at the offices of Messrs.
Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.,
Hong Kong, on MONDAY, the 27th
day of February, 1928, at 12 o'clock
noon to transact the ordinary busi-
ness of the Company.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY
ALSO GIVEN that the REGISTER
OF MEMBERS of the Company
will be CLOSED from MONDAY,
13th to MONDAY, 27th FEBRU-
ARY, 1928, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
W. F. SIMMONS,
Secretary.
Hong Kong, 4th February, 1928.

NAVY LEAGUE.

SUGGESTION FOR INCREASED MEMBERSHIP.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

An appeal for increased interest
in the League by the public of
Hong Kong and an increase in
membership was made at the an-
nual meeting yesterday of the
Hong Kong branch of the Navy
League over which Sir Henry
Pollock, K.C., presided supported
by Mr. W. A. Dowley, Vice Presi-
dent, Mr. R. Sutherland, Mr. L. M.
Whyte (Honorary Secretary), Mr.
A. J. Bird (Honorary Treasurer),
Mr. C. P. Marcel, Mr. W. G. Stokes
and Mr. S. H. Williams.

An interesting suggestion was
made in the course of the meeting
by Mr. Stokes who referred to the
large number of British Mercantile
Marine Officers working out of
Hong Kong and to those domicil-
ed here whose existence was ab-
solutely dependent on ships and
sea-borne trade. Was it not pos-
sible, he asked, that by a judicious
and encouraging word in season
the Navy League might add from
those to whom he had referred a
greater number to their strength?

Inadequate Membership.
At the outset of the meeting, the
Chairman referred to the local
branch's present membership of
229 and said he wanted specially
to impress upon the public of
Hong Kong that this number was
insufficient for the reason that the
Head Office in London had to ap-
pend a considerable amount of money
in propaganda work to counteract
the efforts of extremist pacifists on
the other side.

As the League's energetic sec-
retary in London, Commander Denny,
R.N., wrote in November of last
year, "we are engaged in combat-
ing the extremists of pacifism
here who are advocating making
gestures to the world and disarm-
ing. But it is uphill work as they
have a large following and much
money."

In these circumstances and as
the local branch sent sums of
money to the Head Office, he hop-
ed, stated Sir Henry, that
very shortly a number of British
residents in Hong Kong would
send in their names for mem-
bership of the Navy League. The
present membership was a very in-
adequate one when one considered
that societies like St. George's
and St. Andrew's had a mem-
bership of something like four times
that figure. He would suggest
that the members of these societies
should roll up and join the Navy
League in order to enable the local
branch to send money Home to
the Head Office which would be
most usefully spent in propaganda
for a strong Navy.

There was no entrance fee, com-
mented Sir Henry, and the sub-
scription was only \$5 a year whilst
\$3 entitled one to the excellent
monthly publication of the Navy
League called "The Navy," a most
interesting publication in regard
to all pertaining to Naval work.

Observations At Home.

As they would observe from the
report during the past year they
had sent various telegrams to the
Head Office in London. He (the
speaker) had himself been present
at a very well attended Navy
League banquet at the Hotel Cecil,
London, when the Nelson Day
telegram from the local branch of
the Navy League had been read
out. Those present at the ban-
quet included Admiral Earl
Beatty, Mr. Bridgman, First Lord
of the Admiralty, and other pro-
minent persons.

Sir Henry referred to various
other celebrations which were held
at Home on Nelson Day and stated
that in the course of his stay
he paid several visits to the Navy
League office. He had also, at the
request of the Chairman of the
League, given his views on certain
matters out here at a gathering
at which several members of Par-
liament and members of the Execu-
tive Committee had been present.
Sir Henry paid a tribute to the
work of the Executive Committee
of the Navy League and stated
that they were working heartily
and constantly for the welfare of
the Navy and for its maintenance
at a proper standard of security
and safety.

Sir Henry then referred to the
accounts and proposed the adop-
tion of the report and passing of
the accounts.

Mr. Williams seconded.—Carried
unanimously.

The Chairman asked if any
member would like to ask ques-
tions.

Mr. Stokes' Remarks.
Mr. Stokes then addressed the
meeting as follows:

According to the Report the ad-
dition to the Membership Roll dur-
ing the year was 50, this is no
doubt satisfactory in comparison
with the total of 229 Members.

From the latter figure, however,
arises the more important and, if
I may say so, unsatisfactory point
that our membership is discour-
agingly low.

Considering the fact that there
are over 1,000 natural born British
Mercantile Officers constantly
working out of Hong Kong whose
daily bread is actually earned, and
even, at sea, besides many more
of our compatriots domiciled here
whose existence is absolutely de-
pendent on ships and sea-borne
trade, which is made possible only
by the work of our ubiquitous

LESS FOOD, MORE EXERCISE.

Useful Notes About Indigestion.

In these days of motor buses,
trams and motor-cars most people
walk too little and eat too much.
The result is indigestion, thin
blood and defective circulation.
Commonly felt symptoms are chest
and stomach pains, aches in the
small of the back, cold hands and
feet, and a general feeling of las-
titude: you feel unable to work
with your usual energy and ambi-
tion.

What is needed in a case of this
sort is a course of Dr. Williams'
pink pills. These pills put oxygen
in the blood and give you more
strength and energy. Confirmation
of this is found in the statement
of Mr. T. Palmer, of 12, Derwent
Street, Holbeck, Leeds, who
states:—

"I suffered tortures from in-
digestion. The pain in my
stomach, chest and between the
shoulders never left me; I couldn't
eat, I was vomiting and losing
weight so much that I was getting
alarmed. The pains in my body
and behind my eyes were madden-
ing. Then I read about Dr. Wil-
liams' pink pills and sent for a
supply. The pills seemed to do me
good from the start, and so I car-
ried on with them. First my ap-
petite came back, and then the
awful pains began gradually to
lessen in intensity and, finally,
to disappear. Now I feel a different
man."

All chemists sell Dr. Williams'
pink pills, or post free, \$1.50 per
bottle, \$8.00 for six bottles from
the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 60,
Klunge Road, Shanghai.

Navy, it would seem that there
should be no difficulty in making a
very considerable addition to our
Membership.

Debt to Royal Navy.

The Mercantile Marine Officer on
the China Coast, even in piping
times of peace, owes a very great
debt to the Royal Navy, yet, al-
though I have brought the mat-
ter of joining the Navy League
before a large number of them, the
response, or should I say the want
of it, has been very discouraging.
One recruit to my credit.

I do not understand this dis-
couraging result, the mission of
the League is important, its aims
are truly patriotic and its appeal
should be irresistible by any and
every Briton who lived through the
years 1914-18.

We have on our Roll a goodly
number of the captains of mari-
time industry. Is it not possible
that, by a judicious and encourag-
ing word in season, they might
materially assist in adding to our
strength.

I know, Sir, that, as a very
juvenile member, I lay myself
open to the retort courteous anent
"new brooms"; but, at the risk of
that, I ask whether it is not pos-
sible to devise some further
methods by which we can attract
the sympathies of a larger circle
of our compatriots.

The Chairman said they were
much indebted to Mr. Stokes for
his very useful suggestion which
would be carefully considered by
the incoming Committee with a
view to framing an appeal to the
mercantile community.

Officers Elected.

The following officers were then
elected:

President, Sir Henry Pollock,
K.C.; Vice President, Mr. Paul
Lauder; Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. P.
Marcel; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. J.
Bird; other members of Committee,
Commodore J. L. Pearson, C.M.G.,
Mr. R. Sutherland, Mr. W. H.
Dowley and Mr. A. L. Shields.

The Chairman indicated that in
a few days time their active and
energetic Honorary Secretary, Mr.
L. M. Whyte, to whom they were
indebted for his work not only dur-
ing the past year but during the
previous year, was going home on
a well earned holiday. On behalf
of the Navy League he wished Mr.
Whyte a very pleasant holiday
(hear, hear).

The meeting concluded with
thanks to Jardine, Matheson and
Co. for their courtesy in allowing
the Board Room to be used for
meetings.

MATSHED RANSACKED.

Four Chinese gained admittance
to an unnumbered matshed in
Tungao village, Kowloon City on
January 14 by posing as police
officers, and when they found that
the only occupants were three
women, the intruders ransacked
the place and stole money and
jewellery worth \$70.

Following a report made by the
women, the police made investiga-
tions which resulted in the arrest
of two of the alleged robbers. They
were charged before Mr. W.
Schofield at the Kowloon Magis-
tracy with complicity in the crime,
whilst the first man was further
charged with receiving two finger
rings knowing them to have been
stolen or unlawfully obtained. The
case was adjourned after evidence
of the raid had been heard.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

We have This Day Removed into more Commodious
Premises—The whole Building situated in 3A, Wynd-
ham Street and the Corner of Wellington Street—
Exactly opposite our Old Building.

THE NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE, LTD.
PROPRIETORS OF THE

CHINA MAIL,

3A, WYNDHAM STREET.

Hong Kong, 1st February, 1928.

A REAL BARGAIN.

THE OLD ORIGINAL

CHEFOO STAMPS

UNUSED GENUINE SPECIMENS

\$2.00 per set of 6 stamps.

Cash must be sent with order to Box No. 519

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DODWELL & COMPANY, LTD.

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S.S. "HOWES CASTLE"Sails hence on/or about 15th Feb.

LLOYD TRIESTINO

FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE (FIUME).
REGULAR MONTHLY PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE
TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO
GENOA, ALL ITALIAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANT, BLACK
SEA AND DANUBE PORTS.
REDUCED PASSAGE RATES.

BRINDISI, VENICE & TRIESTE \$72.10.0.
LONDON \$80.0.0.

NEXT SAILINGS.

OUTWARD FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOI.
From Hong Kong.

M.V. "ROMOLO"Sails hence on/or about 1st Mar.
S.S. "VENEZIA"Sails hence on/or about 20th Mar.
M.V. "REMO"Sails hence on/or about 26th Apr.

HOMEWARDS FOR BRINDISI, VENICE AND TRIESTE.

From Hong Kong.

M.V. "VIMINALE"Sails hence on/or about 10th Feb.
S.S. "ESQUILLO"Sails hence on/or about 6th Mar.
M.V. "ROMOLO"Sails hence on/or about 3rd Apr.

NATAL LINE OF STEAMERS

FROM CALCUTTA & COLOMBO TO
SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

S.S. "HMSINGA"Sails from Calcutta 1st Mar.
S.S. "UDONA"Sails from Calcutta 1st Apr.
Regular Passenger and Cargo Service to South African Ports.
Through Bills of Lading issued from Hong Kong.

For Freight or Passage on any of the above Lines apply to:—

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Telephone Central 1030.

N.Y.K. LINE

THROUGH BOOKING TO EUROPE AT REDUCED RATES.

\$120, \$112, \$110, \$102 \$83, via San Francisco.
\$5440, \$5420, via Japan and Seattle.
SAN FRANCISCO via Shanghai, Japan Ports & Honolulu.
*SIBERIA MARU (Calls Los Angeles) Tuesday, 6th March.
TAIYO MARUTuesday, 20th March.
*Calls Keelung.

LONDON via Singapore, Suez, Marseilles & Ports.

KAMO MARUSaturday, 11th February.
KATORI MARUSaturday, 25th February.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.

MISHIMA MARUWednesday, 22nd February.
TANGO MARUWednesday, 21st March.

BOMBAY via Singapore, Penang, & Colombo.

TAMBA MARUSunday, 4th February.
TASMANIA MARUFriday, 17th February.

SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Mexico & Panama.

ANYO MARUThursday, 15th March.
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape Town & Ports.

KAWACHI MARUWednesday, 29th February.

NEW YORK and/or BOSTON via PANAMA.

+CALCUTTA MARUFriday, 24th February.
LIVERPOOL via Singapore, Colombo, Port Said & Ports.

+LYONS MARUSaturday, 10th March.
CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG & RANGOON.

+TOTTORI MARUSunday, 12th February.
+MORIOKA MARUMonday, 20th February.

NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

AKI MARUFriday, 17th February.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

+AKITA MARU (Moi direct)Sunday, 12th February.
+NAGANO MARU (Moi direct)Saturday, 18th February.

KANAGAWA MARU (Kobe direct)Sunday, 19th February.
HAKONE MARUMonday, 20th February.

+Cargo only.

For further information apply to—NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Tel. Central No. 292 (Private exchange to all departments.)

M.M. MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

MAIL AND CARGO STEAMERS TO AND FROM
MARSEILLES, DUNKIRK, U.K. HAMBURG & ROTTERDAM.

From Marseilles

SPHINX15th Feb.
PORTHOS20th Feb.
PAUL LEGAT14th Mar.
ANDRE LEBON28th Mar.

For Shanghai and Japan

SPHINX15th Feb.
PORTHOS20th Feb.
PAUL LEGAT14th Mar.
ANDRE LEBON28th Mar.

For Marseilles

D'ARTAGNAN14th Feb.
G. METZINGER28th Feb.
SPHINX15th Mar.
PAUL LEGAT10th Apr.

From Dunkirk, Antwerp, London

YALOU (Cargo) 25th Feb.
D. P. BENOIT (Cargo) 24th Mar.

For Shanghai, Japan and North China

YALOU (Cargo) 25th Feb.
D. P. BENOIT (Cargo) 24th Mar.

For Rotterdam, Hamburg, Dunkirk

LT. ST. LOUBERT BIE
(Cargo) .. 4th Feb.

YANG TSE
(Cargo) 1st week Mar.

For full Particulars apply to:—

Cie. des MESSAGERIES MARITIMES,

Telephones: C. 561 and 740.

8, QUEEN'S BUILDING.



SHIPPING SECTION.

CARGO DAMAGED.

IMPORTANT SUMMARY COURT JUDGMENT.

SHIPOWNERS WIN.

Judgment for the defendants with costs was given in the Summary Court yesterday in the case concerning the degree of responsibility of shipping firms in respect of damaged cargo.

This was the case in which Capt. G. D. Arthur, of Carmichael and Clarke, gave expert evidence.

The plaintiffs were the Peng Heng Long firm, merchants, and the defendants were the Kwang Seng shipping firm, 40 Bonham Strand West. When the case was heard expert evidence was given by Captain Arthur.

Mr. R. A. Wadeson appeared for the plaintiffs and the defendants were represented by Mr. D. L. Strellett.

Giving judgment his Lordship said:—The plaintiffs shipped cargo in a steamer owned by the defendants. On the voyage this cargo was damaged by sea water. The action is brought in contract in respect of this damage.

The bill of lading here concerned (allowing for certain misprints) is in the ordinary form.

Result of Bad Weather.

The sea-water damage was the result of this bad weather. The cargo was stowed in No. 1 hold forward. How the water reached the cargo is not definitely ascertained. Five feet of water was observed in the forepeak but as subsequent inspection disclosed no defect in the collision bunker, it is likely that no water entered the hold from this portion of the ship.

The parties came to trial after correspondence in which plaintiffs' solicitors relied solely upon an alleged breach of the warranty contained in the contract of carriage, of the seaworthiness of the ship. This contention the plaintiffs abandoned after the close of the evidence, most of which had reference to it. In my opinion, therefore, whatever may be the result, either in this court or on appeal of these proceedings, the plaintiffs should pay all costs of the present trial.

In his final submission the learned solicitor for the plaintiffs relied on the terms of the bill of lading, and argued that the defendants had not been able to bring themselves within any exception there set out.

Reasonable Precaution.

The relevant exceptions are (1) "Act of God," and (2) "other accidents of the seas, rivers, and steam."

AMERICAN AUSTRALIA ORIENT LINE.
Operated for
U. S. Shipping Board
By SWAYNE & HOYT, INC.
FOR SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES.

S.S. "CROSSKEYS"Feb. 13
S.S. "BEAUFORT"Feb. 23
S.S. "WEST TOGUS"Mar. 17
S.S. "WEST FARALON"Apr. 1

For full information apply to—
SWAYNE & HOYT, INC.
L. EVERETT, Inc.
General Agents

CONSIGNEES' NOTICES.

Consignees of Cargo ex s.s. "Yangtze" are reminded to send in claims to the Agent before February 10.

Consignees of cargo ex s.s. "Benader" are reminded to take delivery of their goods which will be subject to rent after February 19.

navigation of whatever nature or kind.

In my opinion the defendants may successfully found their defense on either of these exceptions. The operative cause was something independent of human action, viz. weather; and further it has not been suggested that the accident could have been avoided by exercise of greater care or foresight. In these circumstances the event was an "Act of God."

I have noticed the following paragraph in section nine of "Carver's Carriage By Sea," (seventh edition). "It is not enough for the shipowner to show that the loss arose from natural, as distinguished from human, causes, and to leave it to the other side to show that there was some want of precaution or care on his part; he must himself show affirmatively that the causes were such that no reasonable amount of precaution and care would have enabled him to avoid or guard against them."

Onus Satisfied.

Captain Arthur's evidence as to the frequency of this occurrence on seaworthy ships, to my mind, sufficiently satisfied any onus borne by the defendants on this point. The second exception is an amplification of the term "perils of the sea."

This accident was not merely an "Act of God," it was also a "peril of the sea," and as such, in the absence of negligence alleged and proved, will be a good ground of defence in this action.

For these reasons it seems to me that the plaintiffs have failed to establish a cause of action. I give judgment for the defendants with costs.

MOVEMENT OF STEAMERS.

The E. I. & Apear Line s.s. "Tilawa" left Singapore for this port on February 3, and is due here to-day.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Australia" R/W Cruise, arrived at Manila on February 6 at 6 a.m. left Manila yesterday at 7 p.m., and is due at Hong Kong to-morrow at 8 a.m. She will berth at Pier No. 5, Kowloon Wharf.

The P. & O. s.s. "Karnala" left Singapore for this port to-day at 6 a.m. with the outward English Mail, and is due here on February 18 at about 6 a.m.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Canada" (Capt. S. Robinson, C.B.E., R.N.R.), will leave here for Victoria and Vancouver, B.C., via Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama at 6 a.m. on February 15.

The C.P.S. R.M.S. "Empress of Russia" left Vancouver for Hong Kong via Japan ports and Shanghai, on February 4, and is due here on February 23.

The M.V. s.s. "Sumatra" (Swedish East Asiatic Co., Ltd.), left Hamburg on January 27, and is due here on or about March 10.

Two cases were heard at the Marine court this morning before Commr. G. H. Ho, R.N.

Chen Lai, master of a trading junk No. T4469H, was charged for unlawfully anchoring his junk in the Southern fairway, thereby causing an obstruction. Pleading guilty, he was fined \$5 with an alternative of five days' hard labour.

Lam Yau, master of trading junk No. T1343H, of Ping Hoi, was charged with having on board 300 tins of kerosene in a place other than the dangerous goods anchorage. Pleading guilty, he was fined \$100, with an alternative of two months' hard labour.

His Worship stated that if any further case of carrying dangerous goods on board junks were brought to his notice a heavier fine would be inflicted.

LOCAL SHIPPING.

TO-DAY'S ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

THIS MORNING'S LIST.

The arrivals of vessels, recorded to-day at the Harbour Office are as follows:—3 British vessels (5 of which are B. & S.); 1 French vessel; 1 Swedish vessel; 6 Japanese vessels; 4 Chinese vessels.

The cargo imported to Hong Kong by the above vessels, altogether total 7,269 the through Hong Kong cargo tonnage amounts to 334,141.

Of these above figures the highest imported cargo for Hong Kong is per s.s. "Shun Chik" (Chinese) from Saigon—Chang Tong Ma S.S. Co.—2,000 tons general cargo; and the through cargo, the distinction goes to Gibb, Livingston Co., by s.s. "Beurmes" from Shanghai—6,416 tons general (through).

The passengers list for to-day show a considerable decrease from yesterday amount, the list is given as follows:—398 Asiatic Deck passengers; 32 Asiatic Cabin passengers; 18 European Cabin passengers; Total being 448.

Departures.

For Canton:—Hang Sang, Soochow; Ninghai.

For Hainan:—Tung Tuck.

For Singapore:—Benrimmes.

For Tarakan:—Phorus.

For Swatow:—Cremor, Newchwang.

For Macao:—Dorry, Shui Hing.

For Saigon:—Delagoa Maru.

For Shanghai:—Pres. Madison.

Shipping Abstract.

Arrivals. Departures Port

British 6 6 32

Japanese 6 1 10

Chinese 4 2 18

Dutch 0 1 5

French 1 0 1

German 0 1 0

American 0 1 1

Swedish 1 0 1

Norwegian 0 0 7

Panama 0 0 1

Danish 0 0 3

Portuguese 0 0 2

18 12 81

MARINE COURT.

WARNING TO JUNK OWNERS.

Two cases were heard at the Marine court this morning before Commr. G. H. Ho, R.N.

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His Worship stated that if any further case of carrying dangerous goods on board junks were brought to his notice a heavier fine would be inflicted.

BANK LINE LTD.

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SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE.

UNITED KINGDOM & CONTINENT

S.S. "CITY OF PEKIN"Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg14th February.

S.S. "CITY OF BENARES"London, Rotterdam & Hamburg20th February.

S.S. "CITY OF MADRAS"Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg25th March.

S.S. "CITY OF GLASGOW"Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg24th April.

S.S. "CITY OF EASTBOURNE"Havre, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg25th May.

AUSTRALIA

SINGAPORE/AUSTRALIAAUSTRAL-EST INDIES LINE

"KAZEMBE"Leaves Singapore7th May.

For FREMANTLE, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

Through Freight and Passenger bookings from Hong Kong in conjunction with "Ellerman" Line and other services.

BOSTON, NEW YORK & BALTIMORE

S.S. "CITY OF KIMBERLEY"via Suez Canal20th February.

S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"via Suez Canal23rd March.

S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK"via Suez Canal20th April.

S.S. "CITY OF CARLISLE"via Suez Canal18th May.

ALSO AGENTS FOR

ANDREW WEIR & CO.

SERVICES TO

BOSTON AND NEW YORK

MAURITIUS & SOUTH AFRICAORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE

S.S. "TINHON"20th April.

Loading for Mauritius, Delagoa Bay, Durban, East London; Algoa Bay (Port Elizabeth) Mossel Bay and Capetown.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Beira, Quilimane, Ibo, Port Amelia, Mozambique, Chinde, Inhambane, Zanzibar, Mombasa, Kilindini, Port Nolloth, Luderitz Bay, Walvis Bay and Madagascar.

For freight or passage on any of the above lines apply to:

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A DELIGHTFUL CRUISE DE LUXE

by the

S.S. "Empress of Australia"

21,850 Tons Gross, Length 615 Feet.

LEAVING HONG KONG, FEBRUARY 13th, 1928.

via Shanghai, Chinwangtao (for Peking), Beppu, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu, Hilo, San Francisco, Balboa, Panama, through the Panama Canal to Cristobal, Colon, Havana.

Arriving NEW YORK, April 12th, 1928.

Two days available for sight-seeing in NEW YORK

Leave NEW YORK, April 14th,

arriving SOUTHAMPTON, April 22nd, 1928.

Shore excursions and sight-seeing tours at all Ports.

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O. S. K.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

LONDON, HAMBURG, ROTTERDAM & ANTWERP—Via Singapore, Colombo, Suez and Port Said. Tuesday, 6th March.

AMAZON MARUTuesday, 19th February.

RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS & BUENOS AIRES—Via Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Durban & Cape Town. Friday, 10th February.

MONTEVIDEO MARUSaturday, 24th March.

HAWAII MARUThursday, 8th February.

SHINGO MARU (Calls on Penang) Sunday, 19th February.

CELEBS MARU (Calls on Karachi) Monday, 5th March.

DURBAN, DELAGOA BAY, BEIRA, DAR-ES-SALAAM, ZANZIBAR AND MOMBASA—Via Singapore and Colombo. Friday, 2nd March.

PANAMA MARUFriday, 2nd March.

CALCUTTA—Via Singapore, Penang and Rangoon. Saturday, 25th February.

KASADO MARUSaturday, 25th February.

VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA & VANCOUVER Via Japan Ports. ARABIA MARU (From Shanghai) Tuesday, 7th February.

HAIPHONG—Via HOIHOW & PAKHOI. Tuesday, 14th February, 10 a.m.

MENADO MARUTuesday, 28th Feb. 10 a.m.

TAIKWA MARUSunday, 19th Feb. 11 a.m.

NEW YORK—Via Japan ports, San Francisco & Panama. Saturday, 11th February.

ALASKA MARUWednesday, 22nd February.

BATAVIA MARUSunday, 12th Feb. 11 a.m.

KEELING VI, SWATOW & AMOY. Sunday, 12th Feb. 11 a.m.

TAIKWA MARUSunday, 19th Feb. 11 a.m.

KALJO MARUSunday, 19th Feb. 11 a.m.

TAKAO VI, SWATOW & AMOY. For further particulars please apply to:—OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

Tel. Central No. 4088, 4089, 4090. M. TAKEUCHI, Manager.

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LARGEST STEAMER TO CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE GLOB

P. & O.-British India Apcar and Eastern & Australian Lines

(COMPANIES incorporated in ENGLAND).
MAIL AND PASSENGER STEAMERS.

TAKING CARGO FOR

STRAITS, JAVA, BURMA, CEYLON, INDIA, PERSIAN GULF,
WEST INDIES, MAURITIUS, EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA,
AUSTRALASIA, INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND AND
QUEENSLAND PORTS, AND RED SEA, EGYPT,
CONSTANTINOPLE, GREECE, LEVANTINE
PORTS, EUROPE, &c.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL FORTNIGHTLY
DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong About	Destination
KHYBER	9,114	18th Feb.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
NELLORE	8,533	25th Feb.	Marseilles & London
KIDDERPORE	5,334	2nd Mar.	Straits & Bombay
MACEDONIA	11,123	3rd Mar.	Marseilles & London
KALPIPORE	6,273	7th Mar.	Straits & Bombay
* KHYBER	9,114	10th Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
* KASHMIR	8,986	17th Mar.	Marseilles, London, Antwerp & Hull
KARMALA	9,128	24th Mar.	Marseilles & London
MANTUA	10,946	31st Mar.	Marseilles & London
* KALYAN	9,144	7th Apr.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
* MONGOLIA	10,504	14th Apr.	Marseilles & London
* MAGNIFICENT	6,283	21st Apr.	Marseilles & London
* MOREA	10,563	28th Apr.	Marseilles & London
* KASHGAR	9,005	12th May	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
* JEFFERSON	5,318	19th May	Marseilles & London
* MALWA	10,986	26th May	Marseilles & London
* DEVANHA	8,155	9th June	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
* NOVARA	6,289	16th June	Marseilles & London
* MACEDONIA	11,120	23rd June	Marseilles & London
* KHYBER	9,114	7th July	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
* NANKIN	7,058	14th July	Marseilles & London

* Passengers to Singapore only. Limited accommodation available for 2nd class passengers from Hong Kong to London.

Frequent connection from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Piræus, Smyrna and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Elvedal Mail Steamship Co.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS.

TAKADA	6,349	12th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TALAMRA	8,018	20th Feb.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
TILAWA	10,006	6th Mar.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta

B. I. Apcar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

TANDA	6,356	2nd Mar.	Manila, Port Holland, Sandakan, S. A. B. S.
AT. ALBANS	4,500	30th Mar.	Thursday Island, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.
ARAFURA	6,000	27th Apr.	

Regular monthly sailings from Hongkong to Japan and Hongkong to Australia.
The E. & A. S. Co., Ltd. steamers will also call at Shanghai, Moilo, Cebu, Kolumbang, Taiwan, Timor, Darwin, or other ports en route as indicated on offers.

Frequent connections from Australia to the United Kingdom via New Zealand, Vancouver, San Francisco, etc.
The P. & O. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal.
The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via the Cape.
The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

* ALIPORE	5,273	11th Feb.	Kobe & Osaka.
TILAWA	10,000	11th Feb.	Amoy, Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
KARMALA	9,128	12th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
KASHMIR	8,986	18th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
TALMA	10,000	21st Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
KALYAN	9,144	25th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
* KALYAN	9,144	25th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka.
* TALAWA	10,006	2nd Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama.
* BT. ALBANS	4,500	6th Mar.	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yokohama
* MAGNIFICENT	5,283	6th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* MONGOLIA	10,504	17th Mar.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama
* LAHORE	6,282	17th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* MOREA	10,563	28th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* ARAFURA	6,000	3rd Apr.	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yokohama
* JEFFERSON	5,318	10th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* KASHGAR	9,005	13th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* MALWA	10,986	27th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* TANDA	6,356	8th May	Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yokohama
* NOVARA	6,289	8th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* DEVANHA	8,155	11th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* MACEDONIA	11,120	25th May	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama
* NANKIN	7,058	4th June	Shanghai, Moji, Kobe & Yokohama

* Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.
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S.S. "LYCAON"	Via Suez Canal	28th Mar.
S.S. "CITY OF ADELAIDE"	Via Suez Canal	23rd Mar.
S.S. "RHESUS"	Via Suez Canal	6th Apr.
S.S. "CITY OF DUNKIRK"	Via Suez Canal	20th Apr.

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IS LIT.

-1,002 DIRECTIONS IN ALL.

Mariners say that the China Coast is one of the best lit in the world and it is surprising to learn that there are no fewer than 1,002 lights and beacons directing mariners making China ports.

Now, who does tend these lights, repair them, replace and re-gauge buoys, take supplies to the men on out-of-the-way and exposed islands and rocks, and attend to the hundred and one things which have to be done to ensure safe navigation to port? It is done by the revenue cruisers "Huihsing," "Pingching," "Lihshing," "Chuenting," and "Liking," all of which are under the control of the Coast Inspector, Mr. H. E. Hillman, Marine Department, Chinese Maritime Customs, who, in turn, is subject to the jurisdiction of the Inspector-General of Customs.

Pirates notwithstanding.

The next question which inevitably arises is: "How can these revenue cruisers satisfactorily and periodically visit lights in waters which extend from Pakhoi (south of Canton) to Harbin, when ports situated between these two points are governed by various political and military factions often opposed to the seat of the Inspector-General of Customs and to the Chinese Government at Peking to which he is responsible? One answer is that, irrespective of government, these cruisers carry out their inspection trips according to the programme laid down, and it is a significant fact that, notwithstanding the civil wars, pirates, and the multitudinous troubles through which China has passed and is still passing, not once has a cruiser failed to carry out its trip and accordingly kept the China coast lights burning. All cruisers are commanded by expert foreign navigators and all officers and engineers also are foreigners.

The Lighthouses.

Now as to the lighthouses themselves. The lighthouse known as the Turnabout is situated on an island in the northern entrance to the Formosa Channel. The light here is visible for no less than 25 miles and the illuminating apparatus is equal to 750,000 candle power. The rock was first lighted in 1873. The island is very exposed and on one occasion the visiting revenue cruiser was lying in the vicinity for 18 days before it was possible to effect a landing with supplies.

Fog signals are placed on various islands and are operated by compressed air. These signals have been heard 20 miles away.

The R. C. "Huihsing."

The revenue cruiser "Huihsing" is the largest steamer in the fleet and is commanded by Capt. C. S. Toll. Besides her captain she has three foreign officers and three foreign engineers, and carries a Chinese crew of 90. She is armed with Hotchkiss machine guns manned by Chinese gunners. This ship periodically inspects all lights on the coast.

In addition to carrying out inspection work and the carrying of supplies, certain cruisers carry out surveys and prepare charts of the approaches to the Yangtze ports, the accuracy of which is maintained by periodical surveys. It will thus be seen what exceedingly important work continuously is being carried on by this branch of the Maritime Customs, the outcome of the execution of which can better be imagined than described.

2 NEW LINERS.

BIGGEST FOR ROTTERDAM

LOYD.

Although the contracts for the hulls had not been settled in mail week, the Rotterdam Lloyd S.S. Co. has ordered the machinery for two passenger liners larger than any they now have in service. In each ship there will be installed two De-Schelde-Sulzer 10-cylinder single-acting engines developing 7,000 h.p. at 100 r.p.m., making a total of 14,000 h.p. for each vessel. These engines have cylinders 760 mm. bore with a piston stroke of 1,340 mm. Four auxiliary Sulzer engines will be fitted for the supply of electric power and their total output will be 3,120 h.p.

MOTORSHIP ECONOMY.

An interesting page of history in the motorship v. steamer controversy was indicated to the "Journal of Commerce" by a motorship owner. He said that the Swedish American Line, which put the first motor liner on the Atlantic, has just completed its most prosperous year. The "Gripsholm" is now a profit-earner of no mean measure. Her economies are certainly striking. She is 18,000 tons, and yet costs about 40,000 kroner less to make the round voyage between Sweden and New York than the same company's 12,000-ton steamship "Stockholm." This is one of the most practical motorship facts yet discovered. But what would the "Stockholm" do if she were a turbo-electric-driven steamer such as that just ordered by Lord Inchcape for the P. & O. Line?

OIL PRICES.

SAVINGS IN 1928 FOR
SHIPOWNERS.

REDUCED BUNKERS COST.

London, Jan. 3.
The year opens with the oil situation more favourable to the motor shipowner than has been the case for a long time past. It is doubtful whether, if an average be taken of all bunkering ports throughout the world, a mean price of 60s. per ton for Diesel oil will be exceeded for moderately large contracts, and as a general basis, it is believed that the reduction in the cost of bunker oil during 1928 will represent a saving of something between 5 per cent. and 10 per cent. to the motor shipowner. At some ports prices are remarkably low, and, for instance, at San Francisco the market price is quoted at 32s. per ton, whilst in New York it is 56s. per ton; contracts are, of course, fixed at lower figures than these.

1927 Production.
During the last months of 1927, oil production in the United States averaged 2 1/2 million barrels daily. Two years ago it was 2,000,000 barrels, showing an increase of no less than 25 per cent. in so short a period, in spite of the fact that production had been deliberately curtailed. The total output in 1927 has been just 20 per cent. greater than in 1926. There seems every reason to believe that the production of oil, not only in the United States, but in other parts of the world, can be considerably increased, should it become necessary, and all discussion of shortage of liquid fuel in the future is, at any rate for the time being, at an end.—"The Motor Ship."

QUICK DISCHARGE.

RECORD FOR WHITE STAR
LINER.

Despite the bad weather which delayed the arrival of the White Star liner "Baltic" at Liverpool in mail week from New York, a determined effort on the part of all concerned to make swift work of the discharge of her cargo minimised the delay to a great extent. The expeditious manner in which all hands went to work is well worthy of record. It is also a very fine commentary on the up-to-date equipment and appliances of the new Gladstone Dock. The "Baltic" was berthed at 2 p.m. on a Thursday, and half an hour later the working of the 7,000 packages of fruit was begun. The fruit was finished at 6 a.m. on the Friday, and the ship, with a large general cargo, was satisfactorily discharged by 11 a.m. on the Saturday.

"SAN NAM HOI" INQUIRY.

More evidence was taken by Major C. Willson and a Coroner's jury yesterday afternoon in the inquiry into the circumstances attending the deaths of Mr. Hugh Conway, formerly Chief Officer of the "San Nam Hoi," and two Indian ship's guards who were killed in the course of the recent raid by pirates on the ship in the West River delta. An Indian Guard said he was asleep in his bunk when he was awakened by the firing of shots. As he was sitting up he saw three pirates standing over him with rifles in their hands. Witness immediately fell back on his bunk and the pirates left without molesting him. Later the witness picked a rifle on the deck and took shots with it at the pirates who had jumped into the water. Afterwards the witness saw the dead bodies of Mr. Conway and an Indian Guard (No. 795). The inquiry was again adjourned.

PASSENGER STATISTICS.

During January, departures of passengers from Hong Kong, according to Harbour Office returns, exceeded arrivals by about 30,000. Particulars follow:-

	Arrivals	Departures
Steamers	29,245	33,289
River Steamers	93,416	117,705
Junks and Launches	9,440	11,374
Total	132,101	162,369

PULVERIZED COAL.

Performance of the Shipping Board freighter "Mercer" on her first voyage from New York to Rotterdam, using pulverized coal for raising steam, was entirely satisfactory, according to a message received by Captain Gatewood, manager of the maintenance and repair department of the Shipping Board, from Captain Evans and Mr. Carl J. Jefferson, who have supervised the installation and operation with the new fuel. Pulverized coal was burned during the entire passage and despite adverse weather conditions the vessel averaged 9.9 knots for the voyage.—"Nautical Gazette."

"CONCORD'S" CAPTAIN.

London, Yesterday.
Captain A. F. Erldham will be in command of the cruiser "Concord" when she departs on Feb. 15 on a troopship trip to China with gunboat reliefs.—"Reuter."

CREW STARVING.

LIFEBOAT SUPPLIES SKIP'S
PROVISIONS.

London Dec. 30.
Signals were received at Great Yarmouth yesterday afternoon from a small steamer, believed to be bound for Antwerp, which was lying in Yarmouth Roads two miles out, that provisions were urgently needed as the crew were starving. The boat like many others, was unable to make port owing to the heavy seas running.

Provisions were obtained in the town, and at 4 o'clock the Great Yarmouth and Gorleston motor lifeboat put out with supplies in mountainous seas. The provisions were successfully put on board, and the lifeboat arrived back two hours later.

Oil had to be poured in the water to enable the lifeboat to make port. The coxswain said they had great difficulty in getting the provisions on board, and were unable to make out the name of the vessel owing to the rough seas.

FLOATING MINE IN CHANNEL.

Somewhere in the English Channel a small object, believed to be a floating mine, is being tossed about by the waves. An Admiralty official told the Press Association in mail week that it was first seen five miles east of Start Point and a warning was then issued to shipping using the Channel. "It would have been destroyed before now but for the heavy seas which have been running since the mine was seen," he said. "It is impossible to send a boat out to destroy or recover it in this weather."

BUTTERFLY CHASING.

EX-KING AS NATURALIST.

Lisbon, Jan. 7.
The ex-King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has cancelled a year's engagements and sailed for South America equipped with a butterfly net. He will also search for three new types of birds in the backwoods of Brazil.

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All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Under-signed on or before the 27th inst. or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 11th instant, at 10 a.m. by Messrs. Gidani & Douglas.

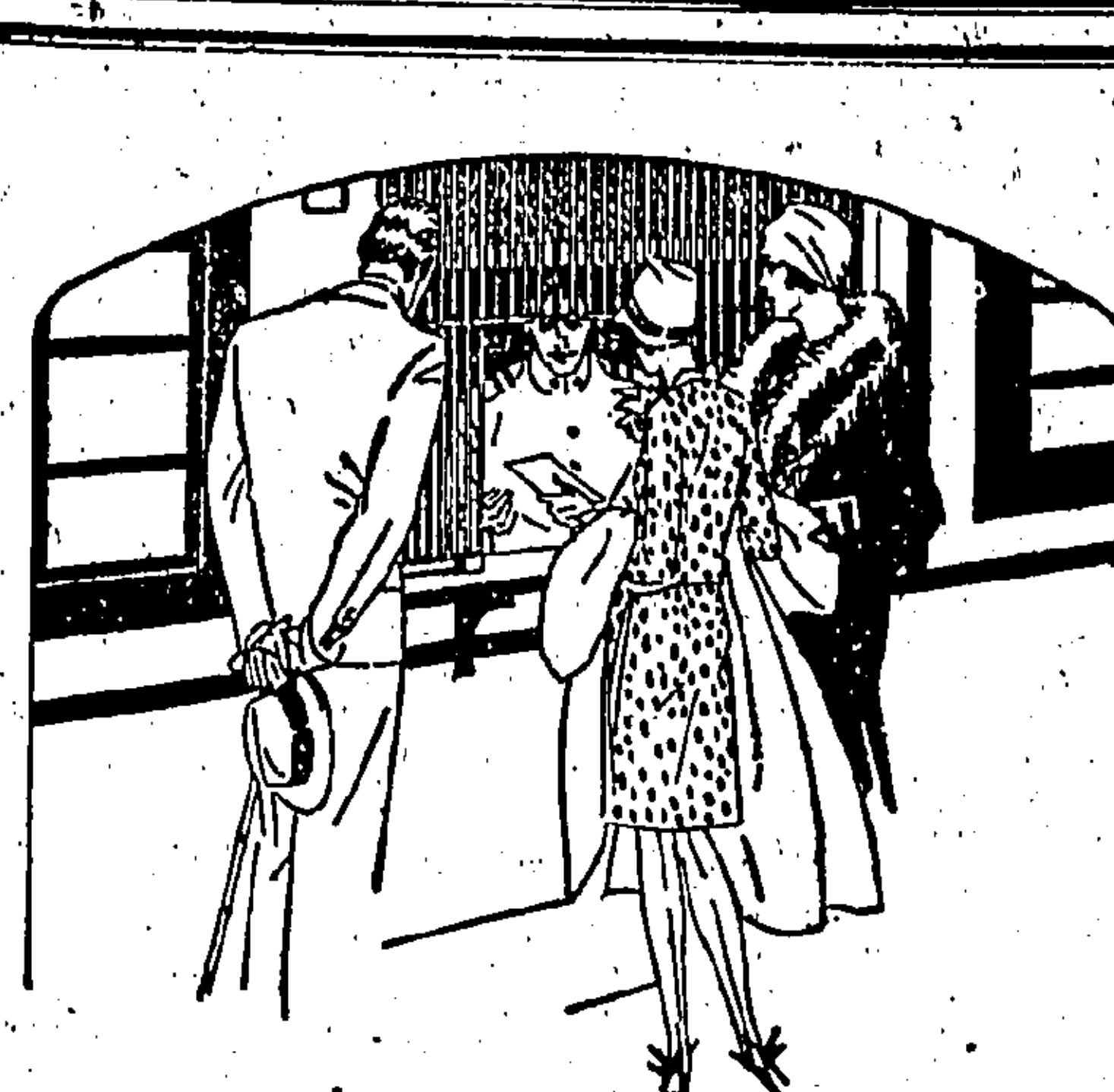
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To MANILA

Pres. Van Buren Feb. 12th 8 a.m.	Pres. Hayes Feb. 26th 6 a.m.
Pres. Jackson Feb. 14th 6 p.m.	Pres. McKinley Feb. 28th 6 p.m.
Pres. Taft Feb. 20th 6 p.m.	Pres. Jefferson Mar. 5th 6 p.m.

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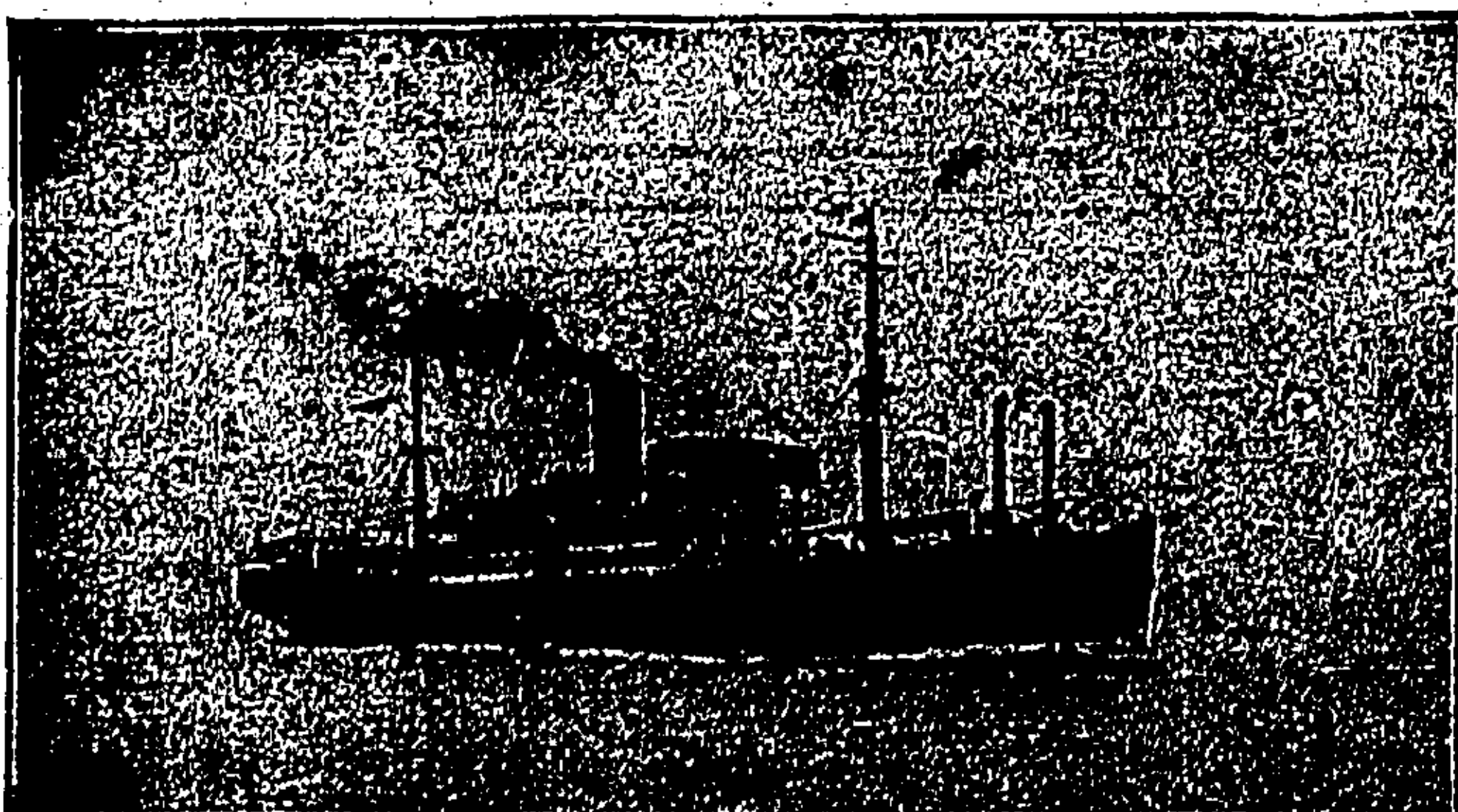
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Hong Kong, Thurs., Feb. 9, 1928.

OUR CHINA POLICY.

The statement in the House of Commons by Sir Austen Chamberlain on foreign affairs, made in the course of the debate on the King's Address, prompts a few observations, particularly in view of what was written in this column yesterday. Then we advanced the opinion that the Chamberlain policy toward China, as outlined in the Foreign Secretary's famous memorandum of December, 1926, was worthy of more confident support now that we had the assurance that we were not going to be rushed into a position which would completely nullify Britain's work in China. Sir Austen's remarks go a long way towards strengthening that confidence and, in a degree, add to it. The salient point was made in connection with his statement regarding extraterritoriality. He emphasised that we were ready to apply the existing modern Chinese civil and commercial codes in the British courts, but as these codes were not complete, it was hardly possible to make a further advance in the direction of the surrender of our existing rights.

This is the assurance we have been waiting for from Sir Austen Chamberlain for a full year, though it would be fair to add that when the terms of the new policy were announced the Foreign Secretary himself did not consider that such a statement was necessary. Nor did we, but it became abundantly apparent that some such proviso was essential immediately after the affair at Hankow in January of last year. However, we now have that assurance; British nationals

in China are not to be indiscriminately kicked out of the country, and British interests will receive adequate protection.

Such, at least, is our reading of the Foreign Secretary's speech. In almost the same breath as his assurance regarding extraterritorial rights he admits that the surrender of the Hankow and Kiukiang Concessions did not prove the glorious success he anticipated. The blame he attributes to the chaotic civil war, which has "immediately impeded the Chinese efficiently discharging the obligations devolving on them from the moment we surrendered any of those privileges." In part he is right, though there remains the fact that in drafting his new policy he and his advisers displayed a singular ignorance of the circumstances and conditions of existence in China for the national in whose interests he acts as the spokesman. What is evident is that there is a lull in the enforcement of the policy, and that is all to the good. We have Sir Austen's own words that he could only watch the development of affairs and proceed in accordance with what may happen. As we all know, anything may happen, and it is this ever-present feeling of uncertainty which renders the adoption of any definite line of policy extremely difficult, not to say distinctly disadvantageous to our nationals who would be expected to continue in their way of life whilst such changes were being effected.

THE CHURCH.

ADDRESS BY REV. G. H. HEWITT.

At the St. John's Cathedral Hall this morning a good gathering of members of the Cathedral Women Worker's Guild listened to an interesting address by the Rev. G. H. Hewitt on "The Church of England in the 19th Century." The speaker explained the "break" with Rome and touched upon the subjects of confession and other Roman rites, explaining the reasons for their exclusion from the Church of England.

After the address a meeting of the Committee of the Guild took place.

ILLICIT OPIUM

At the Central Magistracy before Major C. Wilson this morning, Mr. Horace Lo defended a Chinese charged with the unlawful possession of two tins of illicit opium. In view of the accused's statement to the police, the Magistrate decided to convict and fined the accused \$250.

Senior Revenue Officer Watt charged a Chinese before Mr. R. E. Lindell with the unlawful possession of 60 tins of illicit opium. The accused, who was arrested as he was coming off the "Sui Tai," was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

THE HOUGHTON CASE

ALLEGED ILLEGAL PRACTICE
AS SOLICITOR.
LAW SOCIETY ACTION.

The case against C. M. Houghton charged on two counts of "directly or indirectly practising or acting as a solicitor not having been admitted and enrolled, contrary to the Legal Practitioners' Ordinance of 1871," occupied Mr. R. E. Lindell's attention at the Central Magistracy the whole of yesterday afternoon, and was eventually adjourned until Friday at 2.30 p.m. for further hearing.

When the case was resumed in the afternoon, Mr. D. H. Blake who prosecuted in behalf of the Hong Kong Law Society, quotes a number of authorities in support of his case, and then dealt with the wording of the letters sent out by Houghton. In one of these "criminal" proceedings were threatened, and Counsel said that that step would have gone further than any solicitor's letter.

Addressed to Chinese. Counsel commented that the inference to be drawn from the letter was that the organisation with which Houghton was identified was going to take proceedings themselves. It was to be noted that both these letters were addressed to Chinese, and most Chinese were not so well-versed in English that they could tell the difference between an accountant, a debtor, or solicitor. Fung Chau could not speak English at all. He had had to have the letter interpreted to him; and undoubtedly those two letters came within the definition of practising or acting as a solicitor.

The other letter to Ng Chak-lam re the promissory note, continued Mr. Blake, was strongly worded, despite the absence therefrom of word "criminal" in the character of the proceedings contemplated.

The Evidence. Counsel said he had been unable to find any satisfactory definition for the words "practising or acting as a solicitor, but one of the definitions of "practice" was to work (on some business or occupation), which was a very reasonable and applicable definition.

"To act as" was to perform, or have the character of to do the work of, or to use as.

Dealing with the evidence, Mr. Blake said with regard to the evidence of Chau Kong-chi, despite the discrepancies and difficulties in Chinese interpretation, the statement must be accepted that Houghton did utter the threat of deportation, this being one of the "proceedings" mentioned by Houghton in his letter. That was the kind of threat which would have a strong effect with an ignorant person. Deportation was one of the great fears of Chinese, in this Colony and the effect could be judged, particularly when it was coupled with the threat of "criminal proceedings."

This closed the case for the Law Society.

Houghton's Defence.

Houghton, drew the Magistrate's attention to the letter dated January 25, and said that in that letter the intimation was made that the matter would be placed in the hands of solicitors. He advanced this letter as proof that they had no intention to take up the matter at its legal stage in their own hands. To "institute proceedings," Houghton further said, did not necessarily connote that meaning. It included the meaning that the case would be put into the hands of a solicitor.

His Worship pointed out that that letter referred to bore a later date than the ones forming the subject matter of the summonses. Houghton: Our solicitor, it may interest you to know, is Mr. O'Donoghue, of the same building. Do you submit that you have no case to answer on the evidence?—Yes.

His Worship: How about the letter of the 18th? We are instructed to take criminal proceedings?—Yes.

Houghton: These are Mr. Suen's words. We had no intention of taking criminal proceedings. Mr. Blake said it was claimed to be Suen's idea that Pang Chau would not come up unless he was written to in that manner.

Mr. Lindell: That is no legal argument. Mr. Blake agreed, but added that, in other words, he would produce a solicitor's letter before Pang Chau came up.

One Summons Withdrawn. Mr. Lindell said it was clear that the first summons, against Haynes, relating to the letter on January 20, being withdrawn, the same summons against Houghton must be withdrawn as well.

Mr. Blake pointed out that Houghton still had a case to reply to on the other summons in which he alone figured, this being for occurrences on the 18th and 19th, relative to the letter of the 18th and the interview of the following day.

His Worship (to Houghton): I hold you have a case to answer.

Mr. J. T. Dobbie. Houghton then called Mr. J. T. Dobbie, who said that until lately he was on the "China Mail," and "Sunday Herald."

Houghton: I think that from 1920 to 1924, you were Editor of the "Banbury Herald" in Australia?—Yes.

Witness: Yes. You were a member of the Town Council, Secretary of the local Chamber of Commerce, Secretary

SGT. M. R. DICKSON.

VERY PROMISING POLICE
OFFICER.
DIES SUDDENLY.

The "China Mail" records with regret the sudden death of Sergeant (acting Sub-Inspector) M. R. Dickson of the Hong Kong Police at 7.05 last night at the Government Civil Hospital.

It was only on Tuesday that deceased was removed to hospital, after appearing to have been very cheerful during the week-end. He was unconscious on admission and it is not known that he ever regained consciousness. The ailment has not been identified, except that he had a very high temperature and had complained of a very severe headache.

One of the most promising of the younger Police officers, Sergeant Dickson—as he was popularly known to the public and Press—was only thirty years of age. A native of Locke, Dundee, he served in the engineering trade prior to joining the Cameronians during the War and came to Hong Kong after demobilisation.

Fine Police Record. As a junior officer—he had only about eight years' service—deceased occupied several responsible positions. He was on the "reserve" detective office in the Criminal Investigation Department and was then sent to Wei-hai-wei where he learned the Shantung dialect and took a material part in training the Chinese police recruits from Shantung. On return he continued duties in the Police Training School until proceeding on Home leave about two years ago. Since then he has been Officer in Charge, Hawkers, earning the approbation and respect of the thousands he came in contact with. As a lance-sergeant, he had been in charge of Saikang station in the New Territories.

Much sympathy will go out to his sorrowing parents and his other relatives at Home. It is understood that a post mortem would be held to-day, prior to the funeral—with full Police honours—which will pass the Monument at 5 p.m.

of the local Trade Protection Association, branch of the Trade Protection Association in Western Australia?—Yes.

Were the purposes and functions of this Association precisely the same as those of the South China Trade Protection Association?—Yes.

His Worship interposing, asked witness: Have you seen the prospectus of the South China Trade Protection Association?—Yes.

Witness then said that the prospectus showed that the business of the South China Trade Protection Association was carried on the same lines as the Australian Association.

"Very Much The Same." Shown the two letters forming the subject matter of the summonses, witness said they were very much the same also, except for the word "criminal" appearing in the first of the two documents. Such a Society must be "instructed" and must have "clients."

Without clients, there could be no instructions, according to witness. In Western Australia, witness had been responsible for similar letters as Secretary of the Association in that State. Apart from the word "criminal" it was a letter which he himself would have written.

Shown by Houghton three other papers, witness agreed that those were standard letters harmonising with letters sent out by the Australian Association.

Law in Australia. Replying to Mr. Blake, witness said he did not know the law in Australia as regards the practice of a solicitor.

Mr. Blake: You are a newspaper man—I have been connected with the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail."

You contribute to any others?—On special occasions to the "Daily Press" also.

Have you seen the "Hong Kong Observer"?—Yes.

Have you contributed articles to the "Hong Kong Observer"?—Yes, one or two articles.

It is produced by Mr. Houghton?—Yes.

Will you forget that you are a newspaper man, forget that you are an Australian Trade Protection man, and put your mentality into that of a more or less illiterate Chinese. What would be the effect of such a letter on you? Would you not be terrified? It is just a type of letter. Exhibit B, particularly, which a solicitor would write?

Witness replied that a hundred different men of the illiterate type referred to by Mr. Blake would take the letter in a hundred different ways. As to the letter itself, witness said that some might think it was a good imitation.

Mr. Blake: Imitation! It is just the very word I would like to use!

Little Dot (aged five)—Mamma, Dick and I got married this morning.

Mamma—You did, did you? Who performed the ceremony? "I don't know what you're talking about."

"Well, how did you pretend that you were married?" "Oh! Why, I set my dishes on the table, and then we both sat down, and he said there wasn't a thing fit to eat, and I said he was a brute, and he went out and slammed the door."

"Did you ever try photography, sir?" asked the rustic. "No," answered the painter. "It's much quicker," remarked the rustic.

"Yes, it is," rejoined the artist. A few seconds of profound silence followed, and then the son of the soil blurted out:— "And it's more like, sir!"

P'RAPS-P'RAPS NOT!

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"Yes, it is," rejoined the artist. A few seconds of profound silence followed, and then the son of the soil blurted out:— "And it's more like, sir!"

Little Willie (surveying the lavish array of Christmas presents that bulged and surrounded his stocking): "Santa Claus is a much nicer man than Daddy, isn't he, mum?"

It is claimed that the rigid educational system in Scotland makes even the youngest child think (re-makes the "Morning Advertiser").

Female Teacher (who has just read to an infants' class the Biblical story of Joseph and his coat of many colours): "Now, what sort of garment did Joseph wear," Angus (aged six)—"A kilt!"

The Duke of Montrose, who presided at a farmers' dinner told a story of Rudyard Kipling. He had met his old friend Rudyard Kipling recently, and he asked him, "What are you doing now?" Kipling replied, "Oh, trying to farm."

By way of a joke the Duke suggested, "I expect you are making lots of money."

Kipling swung round and exclaimed—"Making money? Why, farming is a blooming farce. It is just keeping little bits of the countryside tidy."

An Irishman of huge proportions was searching the countryside for work. He had no luck until he came to a blacksmith's shop, where the smith was very busy, and asked him if he would care for a job. Getting the Irishman's assent, the blacksmith told him to start right away and—"the sledge-hammer."

"Now," said the smith, "I'll take this bar of iron from the fire and place it on the anvil, and when I nod my head hit it hard."

Pat, who wished to make a good impression, used all his strength. The poor smith never nodded again.

Teacher: "When was Rome built?" Boy: "At night." "Who told you that?" "You did. You said Rome wasn't built in a day."

Witness: The car contained a bridal party, and was travelling at four miles an hour. Magistrate: I thought you said that it was a wedding—not a funeral!

Scene: Cambridge Circus. Hatless and inebriated man staggeringly searching for something. Policeman: What's the matter? Man: I've lost my hat. Policeman: Where did you lose it?

Man: Wigan. Policeman: Why look for it in Cambridge Circus? Man: There's more light here.

Smithers (to office boy): "Run to the nearest store and see if you can get an empty box." Office Boy (returning): "The man sez he ain't got nothin' but empty boxes, an' wot size do you want?"

Smithers: "Where the deuce did you go to?" Office Boy: "To the undertaker's."

A Scots doctor and his wife, travelling on a West Coast pleasure steamer, ran into a bad line of weather, and hung over the side, very unhappy.

There came a lurch, and the doctor prepared to give up hope. His wife, though she could not move and could scarcely speak, managed to pass a timely word of caution.

"Jock," she whispered, "pocket yer teeth."

A servant-girl had pricked her finger with the prong of a fork, and seemed to be greatly distressed about it.

"Only think, ma'am," she said to her mistress, "if it was German silver, inflammation or blood-poisoning might set in."

"Don't alarm yourself, child; the forks are real silver, take my word for it."

"You are quite sure?" "Positive."

Next morning the silver and the girl had gone off by the first train.

Horton Woman: We don't expect to get model husbands; we take them as we find them.

Magistrate: Are you a master man? Man: No, my wife is the master man, and gives me directions.

700 TOURISTS.

Arrive On World Cruises
To-morrow.

"BELGENLAND" DELAYED.

Coincident Arrival With
"Empress Of Australia."

The Red Star liner s.s. "Belgenland," which was due in Hong Kong to-day in the course of her round-the-world cruise, will not arrive here until to-morrow at 6 a.m. Owing to foggy weather the "Belgenland" was a day behind schedule in leaving Shanghai.

The schedule will be altered to so far as the departure from Hong Kong is concerned, the tourists leaving here at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, giving five clear days for private "excursions," rides round the island, the New Territories and the Peak, and trips to Canton and Macao.

As the "Empress of Australia" is also due in Hong Kong on Friday in the course of her world cruise, there will be somewhat of an "inundation" of visitors—seven hundred in all, the numbers being equally divided between the two tourist ships.

The "Belgenland," which is the largest steamer to navigate the globe, has called at Hong Kong in previous years on the occasion of round-the-world cruises. This is her fourth voyage round the world, New York having been left on December 14. Three new ports will be visited on this voyage which will take 134 days in all. Bangkok, Athens and Formosa are to be visited and by arrangement with the Japanese Government the steamer is being allowed to call at the sacred city of Miyajima.

First World Cruise.

Though this is her first world cruise, the "Empress of Australia" is well known on the Pacific, having plied the regular Canadian Pacific trade route between Vancouver and Hong Kong until 1926. Built at Stettin in 1913 as the "Tirpitz," the ex-Kaiser planned to rule the world from her wide decks. But she was never completed until after the war, when Great Britain acquired her among other subsidies from Germany and sold her to the Canadian Pacific. The "Empress of Australia" is internationally known for her sumptuous furnishings and spaciousness of her state-rooms. Her accommodations are club-like, which means luxurious living. She is 615 feet long, 75 feet wide and has a gross tonnage of 21,855 tons. Passenger accommodation is distributed over seven decks, but owing to the limited, exclusive membership, only six are being used for the cruise.

Prominent Passengers.

Those of the British nobility aboard are the Earl and Countess of Pembroke and Montgomery, the Earl of Rosslyn, Lady Williams-Taylor of Montreal and Sir Elly Kadoorie of Shanghai. Other nobility include Prince Rodolphe de Drago and Prince Jerome Rospigliosi of Italy, Baron and Baroness d'Foucaucourt of Paris and Count Carl Stromfeld of Sweden.

Passengers on the "Belgenland" include:

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart W. Cramer of Cramerton, N. C. Mr. Cramer is a graduate of Annapolis and room mate there of Secretary of the Navy Wilbur. As a mechanical engineer he equipped most of the cotton mills in the South. For a year he was president of the Cotton Manufacturers' Association. Founder of the town of Cramerton, N. C. Cramer has many friends in Shanghai.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Thanhouse and daughter Marie. Thanhouse is a large firm magnet in New York and one of the pioneers in the motion picture industry.

Hon. Charles E. Yeater and Mrs. Yeater. Sedalia, Mo. Mr. Yeater was one time governor of the Philippines.

Captain Adrian Zeeder and wife. Captain Zeeder is retired and was one of the best known sea captains of seven seas. He was commander of the Mongolia, Manchuria and the Siberia.

Sir Juan Marin Balmas, Barcelona, Spain. Large paper manufacturer.

Mr. Clarence H. Cope, president of the Bank of Hawaii.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Simonton, Wilmington, Del. Traffic manager of the Dupont Powder Co., and state senator from Delaware.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren F. McPrath and their daughters, Mildred, Margaret, Charlotte and Albertina, from Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Ben Marshall, Chicago, with son. He is one of the most noted architects in America and built the Drake Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. F. McFadden, Washington, D. C. Journalist.

Hai Roach, moving picture producer will join the ship at Hong Kong.

J. A. Cabell of Virginia, cousin of James Branch Cabell.

PEAK GARAGE.

(Continued from Page 1.)

deration the open space reserved for manoeuvring purposes. Rooms are also being provided for a limited number of chauffeurs. Your Directors feel that this garage will be a great boon to owners of cars at the Peak, and particularly to those who drive their own machines. It is not intended to compete with the established garages in the Colony and no provision has been made for repair shops, but facilities will be arranged for obtaining ordinary supplies.

Court Case Issue.

Last year I referred briefly to the position in regard to the rights of appointment of a successor which the late Sir Paul Chater held in respect of his position of "Permanent and Managing Director" of this Company. I mentioned that we had been advised that the appointments he made were not legal. The position was later tested in court, and judgment given in favour of this Company.

The decision, however, has been appealed against and the appeal will be heard at an early date. As the matter has not yet been finally settled out auditors have desired us to show as a contingent liability the amount involved up to the end of 1927. You will see a note regarding this at the bottom of the balance sheet but I may add that no provision has been made in the accounts.

A New Director.

When Prince's Building was acquired, your Directors invited Mr. J. E. Joseph, who was Managing Director of the Prince's Building Company, to join our Board, and his name will come before you today for election. Mr. Joseph has had very considerable experience in property matters and his presence on the Board is of great value to the Company.

I do not think there are any other matters that call for comment and I now beg to propose the adoption of the Report and Accounts as presented. When this has been seconded I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which shareholders may wish to ask.

Shareholder's Tribute.

Seconding the adoption of the report and accounts, Mr. W. H. Bell said he did so with very great pleasure. He considered, in view of the very difficult times they had had during the last few years, the accounts were remarkably sound and reflected the highest credit on the management.

His Chairman, continued Mr. Bell, was leaving the Colony very soon and going to London to take charge there of the interests of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. In all probability this would be the last occasion on which he would take the chair at the annual meeting of the Company. As head of Jardine Matheson's and as Chairman of their Company, Mr. Bernard had a very great say in the direction of the affairs of the Land Investment Company and in view of the very difficult times through which they had passed, he thought they should congratulate Mr. Bernard on the great success with which he had directed the affairs of the Company (Applause). On behalf of the shareholders he wished Mr. Bernard a pleasant voyage and holiday; they were confident that when Mr. Bernard resumed work, his efforts would be attended by the same success as they had been in Hong Kong. (Applause).

Mr. Bernard, in reply, thanked Mr. Bell for his kind remarks and the shareholders for the kind manner of their reception. The credit for the management of this Company rested with the Board who studied every matter with great care and any credit was due to the Board as a whole.

Other Business.

Other business included the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. J. E. Joseph as member of the Board, re-election of Mr. A. H. Compton and Sir Robert Ho Tung as directors and re-election of Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth and Fleming and Messrs. Linstead & Davis as auditors at a remuneration of \$750 each.

FRANCE & AMERICA.

TEXT OF ARBITRATION TREATY.

Paris, Yesterday. The text of the Franco-American arbitration treaty has been issued and provides that any dispute when ordinary diplomatic proceedings have failed, shall be referred to the permanent international commission created by the Bryan arbitration treaty of 1914.

Arbitration procedure will not apply to questions falling under the national jurisdiction of either party; secondly, questions affecting the interests of a third power; thirdly, matters depending on or affecting the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine or the observance of France's engagements in conformity with the League Covenant.—Reuter.

GIRL BITTEN BY DOG.

Mrs. Lenya Castro, a Portuguese girl, residing in 312 Nathan Road, was bitten on the leg by a dog owned by Mr. Remedios of the same address. The dog was sent to Matco-Kok for examination.

HEART OF ASIA.

SVEN HEDIN'S TOUR OF EXPLORATION.

NOW IN SINKIANG.

Stockholm, Yesterday. A telegram has been received here from Sven Hedin, who in the spring of last year set out with a great scientific expedition to explore little known deserts in the heart of Asia.

He states that he arrived safely in the Hami, Sinkiang, Eastern Turkestan, from Patehchow, on the eastern border of the province of Shansi. His ultimate objective is Urumtsi, 350 miles from Hami.

The expedition is composed of Swedish, German and Chinese experts in geography, meteorology and archaeology and is equipped with hundreds of camels. They encountered "enormous difficulties," and were delayed 50 days.—Reuter.

[Note: Urumtsi, which is also spelled Urumchi, is in about Lat. 43 N., Long. 87½ E. Sinkiang is one of the five divisions of the Chinese Republic, China Proper being another. It adjoins the north-west of China Proper, being on the way towards Central Asia. The expedition has already crossed hundreds of miles and will have to pass over vast expanses of desert and several mountain ranges including the famous Tien Shan, which means "Mountains of Heaven."]—

YUGO-SLAV LOAN.

\$50,000,000 TO BE ISSUED.

ANGLO-AMERICAN SUPPORT.

Belgrade, Yesterday. In connection with the agreement concluded at Belgrade for the new Yugo-Slav stabilization and public works loan, it is understood that the Anglo-American banking groups concerned have agreed to issue the loan up to \$50,000,000, the first instalment to be \$12,000,000 to be issued before April 1.

The groups include Rothschilds, Baring Brothers, Henry Schroeder and Company, Hambros of London, Blair and Company, the Chase National Bank and the Kuhn Loeb combustion of New York.—Reuter.

AT WASHINGTON.

THE FRENCH FLYERS ARRIVE.

Washington, Yesterday. Costes and Lebrun have arrived and were received by the Secretaries for War and the Navy, Ambassador Claudel, the acting Secretary of State, and many flying officers.—Reuter.

RUSSIAN PRIEST.

SENTENCED TO DEATH BY SOVIET.

Riga, Yesterday. The Soviet court at Perm has sentenced to death the Russian priest Konukhov, who was charged with having served the Tsarist secret police.—Reuter.

DOESN'T MIND!

ALLEGED PIRATES SENT FOR TRIAL.

The four Chinese charged with being concerned in the recent raid on a cargo junk near Futuamun were this morning committed to the Criminal Sessions by Mr. R. E. Lindell.

The first three men were charged with taking part in the robbery, whilst in the case of the fourth man, acting Inspector J. Murphy asked for leave to reduce the charge against him to aiding and abetting in the robbery, and being an accessory after the fact. The third man had a further charge against him of having returned from banishment after being sent away for ten years.

After all the accused had been duly cautioned, they were asked if they had any statement to make.

First accused replied: I have not much to say except that I don't mind if I am sent to prison.

The Magistrate remarked that the accused would mind if he were shot.

Second and third accused had nothing to say.

Fourth accused said that he was not a robber, but a well-known fisherman in Shaikwan. His boat was seized whilst he was asleep at Futohai and both he and his father were forced to work for the robbers.

CINEMA NOTES.

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS IN "THE GAUCHO."

AMBASSADOR'S TRIBUTE.

Local cinema-goers will be interested to read the following tribute paid to "The Gaucho" by the Ambassador for Spain immediately after seeing the picture.

"I know El Gaucho, the spirit of the character, its meaning—and may I add that besides the picture being most charming, it is most delightful in its faithfulness, and most convincing in its intelligent handling. Besides its being artistic and picturesque, it is very human. Please accept my congratulations."

"The Gaucho" is a capital story of adventure and romance in South America three generations ago, with Douglas Fairbanks as a bandit chief who pits his wits and strength against a dictator to win both love and treasure.

This entertaining film will be screened at the Queen's Theatre until Saturday. Attention is to be drawn to the special times for performances, namely 2.30, 5.00, 7.15 and 9.30. The picture begins promptly after the overture.

"THE MAN UPSTAIRS."

Written by the author of "Seven Keys to Baldpate" and "The Chinese Parrot," the new picture at the Star Theatre to-day, "The Man Upstairs," offers plenty of thrills and laughs, keeping the audience in suspense until the surprising climax. "The Agony Column" in a daily newspaper brings together two young people in search of romance and adventure. To gratify the young lady's thirst for excitement, the hero creates a mysterious murder for which he is sent to prison! Later it develops that the girl had decided to play a joke on him, and having tested his courage and wits, promises to marry him to atone for her prank. The leading players are Monte Blue and Dorothy Devore, and the supporting cast is an excellent one, including Reine Conklin, John Roche, and Helen Dunbar.

"BLARNEY."

"Blarney," which comes to the World Theatre to-day as the feature attraction until Saturday, is a stirring romance of the bare knuckle days of prize-fighting. The story itself, which was written by Don Byrne, is considered the classic of the prize ring. Ralph Graves, one of the newest and most interesting of male graduates from comedies, plays the role of Carrabine, while Renee Adoree, noted for her recent work in "The Big Parade," plays the heroine, Peggy Nolan. "Blarney" is a dramatic tale with a backing of sporting life in the 30's and scored a sensation on its first appearance as a magazine story, following which it was published in book form.

"TWO ARABIAN KNIGHTS."

According to a special advertisement in this issue, another comedy somewhat on the lines of "Behind the Front" and "We're in the Navy Now" will be screened at the Queen's Theatre from Sunday to Wednesday. This is "Two Arabian Knights," a comedy of two soldiers who escape from prison camp, and after many adventures, ultimately arrive in Arabia. Then follows a series of comic adventures surrounding the private's courtship with an Emir's daughter. The leading players are William Boyd, popular screen star, Louis Wolheim, the original "Captain Flagg" of the stage play, "What Price Glory?" and Mary Astor, leading lady for Douglas Fairbanks in "Don Q," and John Barrymore in "Beau Brummel."

ALCOHOL DEATHS.

NEARLY 100 VICTIMS IN U.S. HOLIDAYS.

New York, Dec. 28. Reports received in Washington from all parts of the country indicate a great decline in Christmas drinking this year. Less alcohol has been consumed than at any previous Christmas since prohibition became law. It is believed that this is due primarily to a growing fear of poisoned bootleg whisky. Only seven deaths are reported in New York and a similar number in Chicago due to liquor. The total death-roll throughout the country is estimated at fewer than 100.

Mr. Doran, the prohibition commissioner, announces that the Government has rescinded the order to put a certain substance in industrial alcohol in order to prevent its use as a beverage, because the substance is a poison. Another substance, which is unpalatable but harmless, will be substituted.

There were fifty deaths from drinking poisoned alcohol, or "undertaker's cocktails," reported during the Christmas holidays last year in the cities of New York, Chicago, and Detroit. An official investigation was promised concerning the allegation that poison was used by the Government to make alcohol undrinkable.

Shadows Before.

COMING EVENTS ANNOUNCED IN THE "MAIL."

Banvard Musical Comedy Company presents "Katja, The Danbar," Theatre Royal, City Hall, 9.15 p.m.

To-day—Queen's Theatre; "The Gaucho."

To-day—Star Theatre; "The Man Upstairs."

To-day—Musical at Helena May Institute, 6.30 p.m.

To-day—World Theatre; "Blarney."

February 11—Concert and dance, Elliot Hall, H.K. University, 8 p.m.

February 12—Star Theatre; "Mantrap."

February 12-13—World Theatre; "Barbara Frischle."

February 12-14—Queen's Theatre; "Two Arabian Knights."

February 14-15—Star Theatre; "Ho Who Gets Slapped."

February 14-15—World Theatre; "Fascinating Youth."

February 16-18—Queen's Theatre; "The Magic Flame."

February 16-18—Star Theatre; "The Gods."

February 16-18—World Theatre; "Yoland."

February 25—Craigsgower Cricket Club's annual Bachelors' Dance.

Sports.

February 12—Monthly spoon shoot of No. 2 Platoon (H.K.V.D.C.) Rifle Club, Peak Range, 9.30 a.m.

February 13, 14, 15, 18—Hong Kong Jockey Club Race Meeting, Happy Valley.

February 17—Golf Match: Ladies' Bogey Competition at Fanling.

February 25—First Extra Race Meeting, Happy Valley.

Lammer's Auctions.

February 10—At Sales Room, Duddell Street, a large and valuable collection of Curios, 2.30 p.m.

February 10—At Sales Room, Duddell Street, a valuable Collection of Postage stamps, 5.15 p.m.

Hughes & Hough's Auction. March 1—At Auction Room, Ice House Street, valuable leasehold property situate in Peak District, 3 p.m.

Meetings.

February 16—Thirtieth annual meeting of the "Star" Ferry Co., Ltd., at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co., Ltd., 12.30 p.m.

February 18—Ninth Ordinary Meeting of shareholders of the Bank of East Asia, Ltd., 10, Des Voeux Road Central, 3.30 p.m.

Lammer's Auctions. February 21—General Meeting of the Royal Artillery Association, R.E. Theatre, Wellington Barracks.

February 25—Ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hong Kong & Shanghai Corporation, at City Hall, noon.

Miscellaneous. February 17—Annual dinner of St. Peter's Young Men's Club at Lane, Crawford's Restaurant.

February 23—Annual Show of flowers and vegetables at Volunteer Headquarters.

March 1—Annual dinner of members of St. David's Society, Lane, Crawford's Restaurant, 8 p.m.

"QUEEN HIGH."

THE BANVARDS AT THEATRE ROYAL.

At the Theatre Royal last night the Banvard Musical Comedy Company presented a rollicking comedy which with a swing from beginning to end, to a good if not full-sized "house."

The plot, there be any, is that of two partners in a garter-manufacturing business who are continually disagreeing as to who is the "number one" of the concern. Love interest is provided by the niece of one and the nephew of the other. On consulting the family lawyer, this worthy suggests that the partners play a game of poker to decide who is the number one—the loser to serve the other as a butler for a year. This is agreed upon, and the hands are dealt, hence the name "Queen High."

When the butler takes up his duty, the fun becomes fast and furious, the "master" becoming jealous of the "butler's" attentions to his wife. However, there is a splendid reconciliation.

As the partners, Mr. Frank Atkinson and Mr. John Hagan are excellent, the niece and nephew are well played by Miss Winifred Dalle and Mr. William Senior. Miss Kathleen D'Arcy is a capital wife of the married partner. Mr. Lew Marks as the lawyer, Miss Claire Leslie as a servant-girl, and Mr. Victor Hagan as an employee all perform well.

We regret to record the death of Mr. William Divoas, of Jardine, Matheson & Co., who passed away from pneumonia at Wuhu, at the age of 49.

Dr. George Elliott, U. S. District Attorney, Shanghai, proposes to leave for America, to conduct the prosecution of Mr. Leonard G. Husar, formerly U. S. District Attorney there, who was convicted last year on a charge of bribery involving the \$4,000, and sentenced to a term in the Federal prison at McNeil's Island. Mr. Husar's appeal is set for March 20 in the Appellate Court of San Francisco.

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Complete Opera In An Album
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BRITISH NATIONAL OPERA COMPANY
Sung in English
The Sensation of the Year!
A WONDERFUL ELECTRIC RECORDING IN THE SCALA THEATRE, LONDON, BY THE PRINCIPALS, CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA OF THE
BRITISH NATIONAL OPERA COMPANY.
THE CAST:
NEDPA ... Miriam Licette
CANIO ... Frank Mullins
TONIO ... Harold Williams
PEPPE ... Fiddle Nash
SILVIO ... Dennis Noble
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'Cat on Barrel' Brand
CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO., LTD.
(Incorporated under the Companies' Ordinances of Hong Kong).
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DAY and NIGHT
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ENAMELS & SOLUTIONS.**

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COMPOSITIONS
FOR SHIP'S BOTTOMS.

G. FALCONER & CO., (HONG KONG) LTD
WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS
DIAMOND MERCHANTS
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ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,
KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers.
High Class English Jewellery.

DO NOT CATCH COLD AT NIGHT
BUY A WATERBOTTLE
WE HAVE IN STOCK
A LARGE SELECTION
OF
Rubber and Porcelain
WATER-BOTTLES
Prices from \$2.75 — \$6.00 each.
THE QUEEN'S DISPENSARY,
22, Des Voeux Road Central.

**A WEEK'S PAPERS
IN ONE**

"OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"

CHINA NEWS, LOCAL NEWS
AND ALL THE NEWS
SEND IT HOME!

SEVERAL GOOD REASONS PROVE THAT IT WILL BE
PROFITABLE IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG TRADE
TO SEND TO BUSINESS CONNECTIONS COPIES OF THIS
WEEK'S "OVERLAND CHINA MAIL."

Reports of proceedings at several company meetings are
included in the issue. Nearly all the speakers, who by virtue
of long experience in this Colony are qualified to give expert
opinions, testify to the wonderful improvement that has been
shown during 1927 and the excellent promise shown for 1928.
What more convincing argument is needed?

Advice was sought by people at Home recently as to what
they should do in connection with their investments in Chinese
loans. Much of importance has occurred during the week re-
lating to the visit to Shanghai of the Inspector-General of
Customs, discussion on loan services secured by Customs
surplus and Salt revenue and incidental questions. All mes-
sages on this subject have been reproduced in the "Overland,"
explaining the matter with care and precision.

Folks at Home, friends abroad and former residents will
all be interested to know how Hong Kong conducted the Earl
Haig memorial service, what is being said and done by the
Benevolent Society, and how Hong Kong is preparing to cope
with a record visit of world-tourists.

Articles on the political situation, supported by explana-
tions written by experts expressly for people who do not
understand, will be found as usual in the "Overland."

READY TO-MORROW.

Mail via Suez closes at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday.

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subscription to the office.—H.K. \$13 per annum, or
\$15 including postage abroad, half-yearly,
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No. 3A, WYNDHAM STREET—PHONE C.22.

"THE OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"

LOCAL AND GENERAL SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The total number of books pub-
lished in Great Britain in 1927 was
18,810—a record.

One and a half million herrings
were landed at Plymouth—a record
catch for the season.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednes-
day next the Exchange Banks will
be open only from 9.30 a.m. to noon.

Twenty-five lieut.-commanders
have been promoted commanders,
and 11 commanders have been pro-
moted captains.

Edmonton Guardians are to pro-
test against the proposed construc-
tion of a greyhound racing track in
Bridport Road, Upper Edmonton, N.

The Buenos Aires Municipal
Council has decided definitely to re-
ject the offer put forward by a Lon-
don group headed by Lord Amptill
to construct an underground rail-
way.

Captain Jonathan Charles Buckley,
aged 82, from 1882 to 1918 vicar of
St. Luke's, Victoria Dock, E., an
influential figure among men in
dockland, has died at Hemel Hemp-
stead, Hertfordshire.

The Duke of York, who is presi-
dent of the Civil Service Sports
Council, will be present at the an-
nual Civil Service dinner at the
Connaught Rooms, Great Queen
Street, W.C., on February 10.

Coal output from the mines of
Great Britain during the week end-
ing December 17, 1927, amounted to
5,853,300 tons, against 5,173,500
tons during the preceding week, and
wage-earners totalled 975,709,
against 973,400.



Welker Cochran, 18.2 inch tall, a billiard champion.

The Bishop of Singapore, who
arrives in Bangkok on Tuesday,
February 28, and will leave on Wed-
nesday, March 1. During his stay
he will be the guest of the British
Minister to Siam.

Owing to a small underground
waterpipe bursting in Throgmorton
Street, E.C., the basement of an
Aerated Bread Company restaurant
was flooded, and shoes, stockings,
and hats belonging to the staff were
soaked.

News has been received that Miss
Dorothy E. Forslow, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Forslow, and
formerly a pupil of the Cathedral
School for Girls, has passed the
London Matriculation examination
with honours.

Raffles Museum, in Singapore,
drew the usual large crowds of Chi-
nese during the New Year, the build-
ing being crowded from an early
hour. Similar conditions prevailed
at the Kuala Lumpur Museum,
which was thronged with visitors.

The steam yacht "Cutty Sark,"
which was originally intended for a
destroyer, but was adapted to
pleasure purposes at the end of the
war, is about to proceed to the
Mediterranean. She was converted
to a yacht for Major Kewick, who
made a tour in her round the world.
She now is owned by the Duke of
Westminster, who is leaving in her.

It is officially announced that the
King has approved the appointment
of Mr. Joseph Addison, C.M.G.,
Counsellor of His Majesty's Em-
bassy at Berlin, to be His Majesty's
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary at Riga, Royal,
and Kovno. Mr. Addison in 1908 was
appointed acting Second Secretary
at Peking, and served there for three
years.

"As a body the police forces of
this country deserve and have earned
the admiration of the world," stated
Sir William Joynton-Hicks, the
Home Secretary, in a message of
Christmas greeting to the police
forces of England and Wales. "As
Home Secretary," he continues, "I
am responsible to Parliament for the
efficient administration of the police
forces of Great Britain, and it is
one of my responsibilities of which I
am most proud."

Mr. J. R. Moreton has been ap-
pointed to the Civil Service of Hong
Kong, as a Cadet.

Major Warner is joining the 2nd
Battalion of the Scots Guards
which is stationed in Hong Kong.

Chicago, Feb. 9.—The death is
announced of Mr. Watson Franklin
Blair, a retired financial magnate.
—Reuter.

During the absence on leave of
Mr. A. W. van Andel, Mr. F. H. J. A.
Lafleur will act as manager of the
Holland-China Trading Co.

Mr. F. P. Franklin of the Hong
Kong Telegraph and Mr. and Mrs.
James Valentine sailed from Hong
Kong on Tuesday in the "Perseus"
for Home.

London, Feb. 8.—The National
Executive Council of the British
Legion have invited Admiral Earl



Jellicoe to become President of the
Legion in succession to the late
Field Marshal Earl Haig.—Reuter.

In the small hours of yesterday
morning a Chinese Communist
suspect was detained by a Chinese
detective in the vicinity of the
Central Market. He had in his
possession seditious Communist
literature.

The Criminal Sessions will com-
mence at the Supreme Court on
February 16. The cases down for
trial include the prisoners charged
in connection with the police shoot-
ing affair of December 7 last year
and the charges of manslaughter
against a Chinese student. In the
latter case, Mr. F. C. Jenkins has
been briefed for the defence.

Mr. A. N. Braude, of the Hong
Kong Telephone Company, has re-
ported to the police that 800 yards
of telephone wire between North
Point and Stanley Terrace were
cut and stolen some time between
Sunday and Tuesday. A report has
also been made by the P.W.D. that
1,000 yards of Government wire
had been cut between the same
points.

The case was concluded before
Mr. W. Schofield at the Kowloon
Magistracy yesterday, in which two
Chinese are charged with resisting
arrest at Kowloon City. The man
who started the struggle against
two Chinese detectives and insti-
gated the other to follow his exam-
ple was fined \$50, whilst his com-
panion was mulcted in the sum of
\$10.



Maj. E. D. Brainerd, commander of the United States Marine Corps aviation forces.

As the result of overloading, a
cargo junk which was on its way
to Hong Kong from Pengchau, New
Territories, foundered whilst pass-
ing Kennedy Town. The junk
turned over completely. Most of
the people on board managed to
cling to planks until they were
rescued by other craft in the vicin-
ity. The junk master's small son
was drowned together with one
of the crew who made a gallant at-
tempt to rescue him.

It has already been announced
that the s.s. "Mongolia" is coming
out in place of the s.s. "Mantua,"
which will be a fortnight ahead of
her scheduled time on the out-
ward run. Both ships will sail
homewards on their scheduled dates
(the s.s. "Mantua" on March 31
and the s.s. "Mongolia" on April
14), this being made by the fact
that the s.s. "Mantua" will be turn-
ed round at Shanghai instead of
proceeding to Japan. Hong Kong
and Shanghai passengers will
therefore be able to sail by the
ships and on the dates they ordi-
narily intended.

Mr. H. J. Williams, general man-
ager of the Port Talbot Docks, has
died at the age of 51.

Decrees were granted in 466
divorce cases in the Edinburgh
Court of Session during 1927.

Mr. W. Moyrick Howlett, Consul-
General at Nanking, is leaving
Shanghai for the latter city by the
s.s. "Kungwo."

The Maha Sabha, a body repre-
senting a large section of Hindus
passed a resolution boycotting the
Simon Commission on Indian re-
forms.

Five motor-cars were destroyed in
a fire at premises belonging to Mr.
H. R. Richardson, builder, at the
back of Canterbury Street, Gilling-
ham, Kent.

A boy died from injuries inflicted
by a shark in Mossel Bay, Cape
Colony—the first time a shark has
been known to attack a human being
in these waters.

The Donaldson liner "Salacia"
(5,201 tons) leaves the Clyde for
Vancouver with a consignment of
whisky equivalent to more than
1,250,000 bottles.

Mrs. Lucy Mason Giles, aged 27,
who is under remand at Aldershot on
a charge of murdering her 4-months-
old daughter by striking her with a
hammer, has been certified as in-
sane.

All masters of foxhounds have
been asked by the League for Pro-
hibition of Cruel Sports whether
their hunts would be willing to draw
off hounds when a benton fox goes
to ground or seeks sanctuary in a
dwelling or other place.



Vintila Bratiano, Premier of Ru-
mania, who, despite the opposition's
criticism of his cabinet, stated his
intention of pursuing the policies,
domestic and foreign, laid down by
his late brother, San Bratiano. His
father, before his brother, was also
a leading light in the government
of Rumania.

Mr. A. B. Jordan, Chairman of
the Kinta Sanitary Board, has been
spending the Chinese New Year
holidays at Fraser's Hill where Mrs.
Jordan and the children went about
a week ago.

Mr. Henry Dawson, of Leigh-on-
Sea, Essex, was repairing a re-
frigerator in the basement of a
butcher's shop at Guildford when a
gas explosion wrecked the chamber
and inflicted severe burns on him
and he was taken to hospital.

When a man was fined at Wool-
wich for being drunk in charge of
a motor-car, it was stated that, after
he had run into a tramway standard,
he said to a policeman:—"Ask him
where his light is."

A Chinese woman fainted in the
vicinity of the Central Market,
Des Voeux Road Central, yesterday
morning as a result of a fall, while
alighting from a moving tramcar.
Two men from the Central Fire
Brigade arrived on the scene and
conveyed her to the hospital.

The case in which two women
were charged with harbouring an
unmarried girl and two boys, and
with aiding and abetting, was con-
cluded before Major C. Willson, at
the Central Magistracy yesterday,
when both defendants were sent to
prison for six months. Sergt.
Fitches prosecuted.

A cable has been received an-
nouncing the death of Mr. Alfred
Arthur Bristow, at Ipswich, at the
age of 57. Mr. Bristow, who
retired from Malaya in 1925 and
settled down at Ipswich with his
family, was acting Chief Inspector
of Machinery at the time of his re-
tirement.

The engagement has taken place
of Mr. C. Kim Hah, the building
contractor, of Bangkok, with Miss
Ampha Yudhanand, daughter of
First Councillor Pira Binich
Dhanakara, of the Customs and
Excise Department. Miss Ampha
was educated in Penang and later
was a graduate of the Rajini School.
She was one of the first girl students
to enter the Medical Faculty of the
Chulalongkorn University at Bang-
kok.

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"And I says to her..."



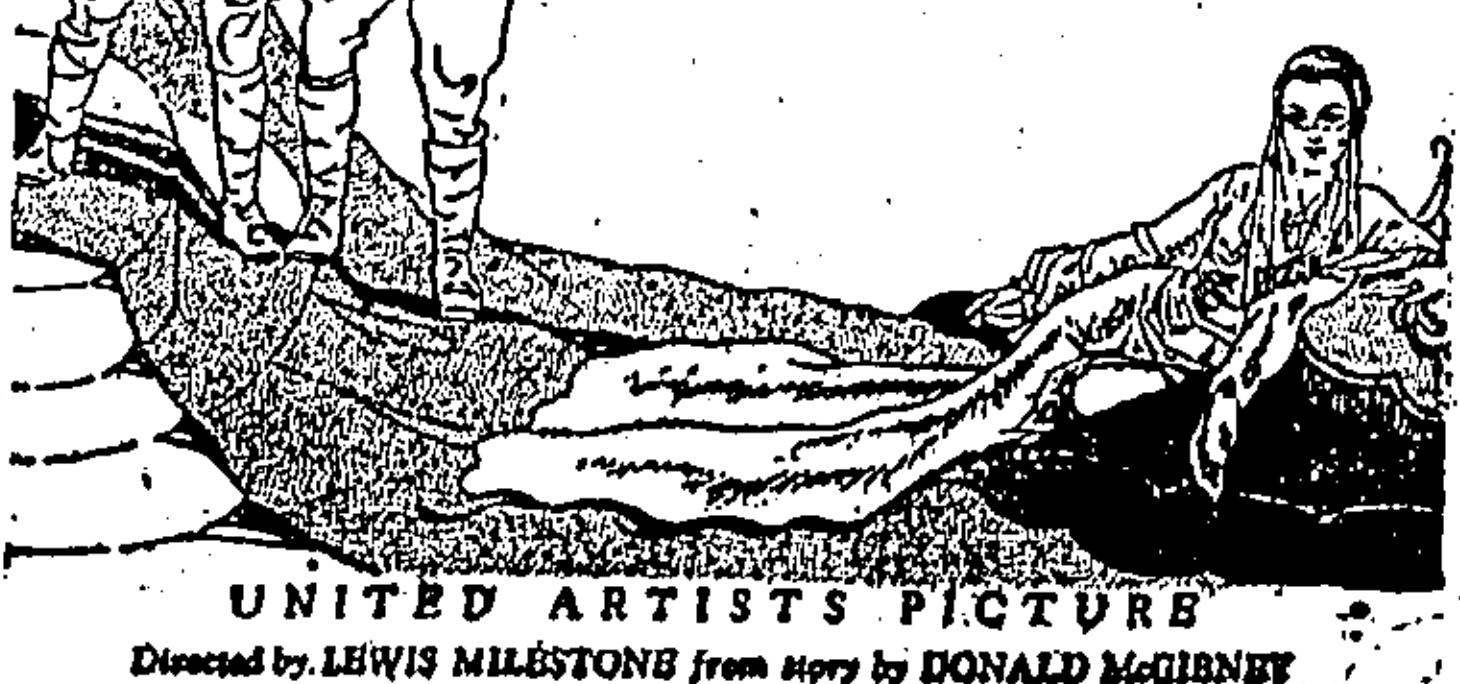
**TWO ARABIAN
KNIGHTS**

**WM. BOYD
MARY ASTOR
and LOUIS WOLHEIM**

COMING TO THE

QUEEN'S

SUNDAY TO TUESDAY.



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SPORTS

RECORD CARNIVAL?

New Features at Annual Meeting.

THE "TOTE" AND CASH SWEEP.

Red Light Signal For Early Closure.

Every indication points to next week's local racing carnival in Hong Kong being a record success.

The "old" ponies are "known" but the subscription griffins and the Derby griffins this year are of a better class than those of 1927. The times recorded during training have been very good, and it is more difficult to pick the winners of the classic events that has been the case for years past.

One gathers that there are no "dead certs" and any one of a dozen ponies, at least, is capable of creating a sensation. It is anticipated that "fields" will be generally large in most, if not all, of the events, and this will make the racing all the more interesting for the followers of the "sport of kings."

Chances Open.

Appropriately enough, a pony in the "King" stable is being looked to by many to put them in "easy street" after the big event of the meeting.

What is more interesting in connection with the big events—the Derby and Champions—is that the good ponies are fairly evenly divided, at least five stables having not less than a couple of "possibles" amongst their strings. This will make both the Derby and the Champions more "open" events, instead of confining them to races between two stables as was the case last year.

Needless to say, this is appreciated by those who like racing for its own sake, because of the added interest and excitement which uncertainty brings to the big events. Those who like long odds will, of course, be in their element with such open fields, whilst followers of form will stand a better chance of securing big dividends. Hence everybody is keen with anticipation.

Everything considered, this year's races bid fair to be the biggest success in many years.

The Jockeys.

In the matter of jockeys, most of the "cracks" will be in the saddle. As already reported, Mr. H. Maitland, Mr. A. J. P. Heard and Mr. V. M. Haimovitch arrived this week to ride respectively for Mr. Dunbar, Messrs. Hynes and Mackie, and Mr. Dynasty. Mr. Pote-Hunt is here to wear the colours of the "Eve" stable, whilst other riders who are also here are Mr. G. A. Harriman and Mr. T. L. Wong. Mr. Harriman, who has been absent from Hong Kong for a few years, rode here before, and has secured mounts from the C.T.C. stable's "Stag" string of ponies. All these jockeys are already training with their mounts in the mornings, and both ponies and riders are rapidly getting "acquainted."

Other locally known jockeys who are expected here just before the race meeting are Mr. E. A. Brodie and Mr. K. H. Chan. It is understood that the former has stopped over at Shanghai for the racing at the Chinese course this week and will take ship for Hong Kong immediately afterwards.

A new rider who is expected to make his debut in Hong Kong is Frew of the Dollar Co. who is understood to be making arrangements to come down. In addition to the jockeys, most of the local riders will, of course, be riding at the annual meeting.

New "Tote" Features. Arrangements for Hong Kong Jockey Club members and the public will be the same as formerly in the Club's enclosure at the race course, and prices of admission to the public stand also remain unchanged.

As in former years, there will be a pari-mutuel and the cash sweeps.

At the coming race meeting, the pari-mutuel will be closed after the first pony enters the course instead of being open up to the start of the race as formerly. Two minutes before the closure, red lights will be switched on at both the name boards and pari-mutuel, and will remain "on" until "closing time" in each race.

Cash Sweeps As Well. Similar arrangements have been made with regard to the cash sweeps, the sale of which will be closed after the first bell. This is in order to give ample time for the drawing and the number of tickets sold on each pony to be posted before each race is over.

An innovation this year is the Jockey Club's selling lotteries at

LOCAL DERBY.

HEIR APPARENT STILL FAVOURITE.

LATEST "BAROMETER."

Heir Apparent is still favourite for the local Derby, which will be run on next Tuesday. Peck and November are next in demand. The latest "barometer," based on Mr. Frank Haytor's quotations, follows:—

9/2	Peck.
6/1	Pickie.
6/1	Harlene.
50/1	Movancher.
100/1	U Un II.
55/1	Blackstone Hall.
50/1	Guil Hall.
50/1	Manor Hall.
25/1	Duke of Verona.
66/1	Young Pretender.
9/4	Heir Apparent.
6/1	Sitting Bull.
20/1	Bakers Bay.
50/1	Coos Bay.
66/1	Deepwater Bay.
14/1	Monterey Bay.
50/1	Comrade.
66/1	Captain.
7/1	New Year's Eve.
100/16	Boxing Eve.
50/1	Mish Mish.
9/2	November.
66/1	Handsome Stag.
7/1	Winsome Stag.

HOME SOCCER.

SCOTTISH CUP. 3RD ROUND DRAW.

MANY LEAGUE RESULTS.

London, Yesterday. The draw for the third round of the Scottish F.A. Cup, to be played on Feb. 13, results as follows:—

Celtic v. Alloa.
St. Mirren v. Partick.
Dundee v. Dunfermline.
Hibernians v. Falkirk.
Albion v. Airdrie.
King's Park v. Rangers.
Kilmarnock v. Queen's Park.
Hearts v. Motherwell.—Reuter.

Second Round Replays.

London, Yesterday.

Replays in the 2nd round today resulted:—

Raith 1, Motherwell 2.
Dundee 1, Dundee United 0.—Reuter.

THE LEAGUE.

Many Mid-Week Matches Played.

London, Yesterday.

Principal league football matches played to-day (home team mentioned first) resulted:—

Division I: Aston Villa 3, Burnley 1.

Division III (North): Crewe 3, Rotherham 2.

Scottish League: Cowdenbeath 1, Clyde 1; Partick 3, Hibernians 0; St. Johnstone 1, Dunfermline 1; Hearts 9, Falkirk 3; Aberdeen 2, Hamilton 0; Airdrie 0, Kilmarnock 2; Bo'ness 2, Queen's Park 0.—Reuter.

NAVY ON TOP.

SIM SHIELD HOCKEY MATCH.

TOURNAMENT NEAR END.

Once more the Royal Navy have a lead of two points in the Sim Shield hockey tournament, thanks to defeating the Hong Kong Hockey Club at the U.S.R.C. ground, Kowloon, yesterday, by 4 goals to nil.

As will be seen from the table, the Navy are 2 points ahead of the Army who, however, have a match in hand. Incidentally, the Navy have completed their fixtures. The Army have to play a return with the Royal Air Force and as the former have already won once, they are likely to tie the senior service again. Goal average does not count and a play-off may then be necessary. The other remaining fixture is between the Air Force and the Club to decide the wooden spoon issue.

Blank First Half.

Yesterday's match was hotly contested at a fast pace. After beating off all onslaughts in the first half, the Club failed to stay the pace and their defence was beaten four times. Lt. Mackendrick scored two and Lt. Sladen the other two. Table to date follows:—

	F.	W.	L.	F.A.	Pts.
Royal Navy	3	5	1	24	6 10
The Army	5	4	1	18	9 8
H.K. Hockey Club	5	1	4	7	20 2
Royal Air Force	4	0	4	4	16 0

Goals.

F. W. L. F.A. Pts.

Royal Navy 3 5 1 24 6 10

The Army 5 4 1 18 9 8

H.K. Hockey Club 5 1 4 7 20 2

Royal Air Force 4 0 4 4 16 0

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Royal Navy 3 5 1 24 6 10

The Army 5 4 1 18 9 8

H.K. Hockey Club 5 1 4 7 20 2

Royal Air Force 4 0 4 4 16 0

ENGLAND LOSES.

BATTING COLLAPSES AGAIN.

FIFTH TEST RESULT.

England lost the Fifth and last Test Match in South Africa by eight wickets.

Once again the batting collapsed. Blissett's analysis in England's 2nd innings was 7 wickets for 29 runs!

Rain fell overnight and the weather was overcast when the

HONOURS EVEN.

Each Side Wins Two Matches.

Rugby, Yesterday. Of the five Test matches, South Africa and England each won two and one was drawn.—British Wireless Service.

England won the first and third, South Africa the fourth and fifth.

fourth day's play began yesterday at Durban, says Reuter. The wicket had been covered during the night and continued to play fast. There was only a moderate attendance.

At the resumption, England were 20 runs behind, with 9 wickets in hand. By the lunch interval, the deficit had been wiped out, the score then being 89 runs for 4 wickets, i.e., 59 runs had been added but 3 more wickets had fallen. England were now 39 runs on with 6 wickets in hand.

After Lunch Collapse. After lunch, the remaining 6 wickets fell and only 29 runs had been added. England's 2nd innings' total was 118.

South Africa hit off the required runs, 69, for the loss of two wickets and thus won by eight wickets. Scores:—

England: 1st innings 282 runs (Sutcliffe 51, Tyldesley 100, Hammond 66; Nupen 5 wks. for 83 runs).

South Africa: 1st innings 332 runs for 7 wickets, declared (Catterall 119).

England: 2nd innings 118 runs (Blissett 7 wks. for 29 runs).

South Africa: 2nd innings 69 runs for 2 wickets.

Varsity Cricket.

INTER-FACULTY GAMES COMMENCE.

MEDICALS v. ENGINEERS.

By 44 runs, the Medical Faculty defeated the Engineering Faculty at Pokfulam yesterday, in the first of the inter-faculty cricket matches of the University. A. A. Rumjahn, the former Varsity skipper, took a prominent part in the victory.

The winners meet the Art Faculty next Wednesday and Arts play Engineers on Wednesday week. Yesterday's scores:—

Medical Faculty.

A. A. Rumjahn, st. Kermani, b

Redmond 54

D. Laing, b Aziz 8

E. A. Lee, b Redmond 3

C. W. Lam, c F. S. Chen, b

Gittins 12

Extras 12

Total 114

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

Lee 2 1 6 0

Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 12

Total 114

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

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Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 12

YACHTING RACE.

TWO DAYS' INTER-SERVICE EVENT.

ARMY BEAT ROYAL NAVY.

Starting two points down yesterday as the result of the previous race, the Army defeated the Royal Navy by thirteen points and thus won the inter-service race (in connection with the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club) by eleven points.

Because the Army were short-handed, they were allowed by the senior service to sail some of the smallest yachts without any Army crews.

There were two races yesterday, each side using six boats, which were changed over after the morning event.

In the morning, the Army secured 42 points to the Navy's 37. The afternoon result was: Army 43, Navy 35.

Yachts used, and points gained according to position, were:—

The Army.

Morning: Blunstone 18, Daphne 11, Lola 8, Viking 7, Thecla 2.

Adèle 1—total 42; afternoon: Ailsa 13, Adanac 10, Wings 9, Pierrette 8, Zephyr 3, Gael 0 (did not finish)—total 43—grand total 85, to which was added the total gained in the previous race, 77, making the aggregate for the series, 162.

Royal Navy.

Morning: Ailsa 10, Adanac 9, Gael 6, Pierrette 5, Wings 4, Zephyr 3—total 37; afternoon: Blunstone 11, Thecla 7, Lola 6, Adèle 5, Daphne 4, Viking 2—total 37—grand total 72, to which was added the total gained in the previous race, 79, making the aggregate for the series, 151.

A. D. Gutierrez, run out 16

A. Chan Fook, b Gittins 18

D. K. Samy, c Kermani, b

Redmond 1

B. N. Sudan, c Kermani, b

Sulleman 5

M. B. Osman, b Gittins 4

K. T. Loke, not out 10

F. Hiptool, at Kermani, b

Redmond 1

Extras 24

Total 156

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

Lee 2 1 6 0

Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 24

Total 156

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

Lee 2 1 6 0

Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 24

Total 156

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

Lee 2 1 6 0

Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 24

Total 156

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

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Hiptool 2 1 1 0

Extras 24

Total 156

Bowling Analysis.

O. M. R. W.

Gutierrez 7 2 19 0

Lam 12 2 24 3

Rumjahn 17 4 32 6

Samy 5 3 8 0

Lee

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THE WORLD OF BOOKS

CHARLES DE COSTER.

CELEBRATION OF
CENTENARY.

For many weeks Belgium has been celebrating the centenary of the founder of that section of Belgian literature expressed in French, Charles De Coster, whose name must be associated with those of Maeterlinck and Verhaeren as one of the most prominent representatives of Belgian literature.

The popularity of the author of "Thyl Ulenspiegel" has been growing steadily since the end of the nineteenth century, when Camille Lemonnier and his disciples protested vehemently against the indifference of the Belgian public to the works of De Coster, whom they hailed as the forerunner of their movement, and as the first author able to express the spirit of the country in an original work entirely independent of French influences.

This enthusiasm was entirely justified. As M. Camille Huysmans, Minister of Science and Arts, showed in a recent speech, De Coster may be considered as the greatest "Flemish writer," in spite of the fact that he never wrote a line in the Flemish language and that both his father and mother were of Walloon extraction (De Coster was the name of his adopted father).

Flemish Genius.

There has not yet been produced in the Flemish language any prose work which expresses more adequately than "Ulenspiegel" the genius of the Flemish race, its heroism, tenacity, and somewhat broad humour. Those who have read the abridged version, in Mr. Whitworth's translation, or read Mr. Atkinson's complete translation, published five years ago, will remember that De Coster's strange epic is based on the traditional story connected with "Thyl Ulenspiegel," or "Thyl Owlglass," a familiar character of mediaeval folklore in Northern Europe, whose pranks and practical jokes delighted our forefathers. The scene is staged in Flanders, during the religious wars of the sixteenth century. Having sown his wild oats after the manner of his namesake, De Coster's hero is converted to a more serious way long after the death of his father who falls a victim of the Inquisition. He becomes one of the principal agents of William the Silent and the champion of the independence of the Belgian provinces. One day, as he was asleep, his enemies attempted to bury him, while Nele, the Flemish girl who accompanies her lover through his wanderings, was looking on, distraught with grief, but "suddenly there was a great upheaving under the soil, and Ulenspiegel, sneezing and shaking the sand out of his hair, seized the cure by the throat:

"Inquisitor," said he, "thou dost thrust me into the earth alive in my sleep. Where is Nele? Hast thou buried her, too? Who art thou?"

Frightened Cure.

The cure cried out: "The Great Beggar returneth into this world. Lord God, receive my soul," and he took to flight like a stag before the hounds. The Burgomaster and the Aldermen, holding their ears with fright, were whimpering on the turf. Ulenspiegel went up to them, and shaking them:

"Can any bury," said he, "Ulenspiegel, the spirit, and Nele, the heart of Mother Flanders? She, too, may sleep, but not die. Come, Nele." And he went forth with her, singing his sixth song, but no man knoweth where he sang the last one of all.

Genius And Circumstance.

De Coster's centenary would have been under any circumstances the occasion of important celebrations, for present-day Belgium is eager to show her

ACCORDING TO JILL.

"According to Jill," Nora K. Strange, Stanley Paul, 75, 6d. On her twenty first birthday Jill's eccentric father died and an old friend of the family proposed to her. The estate to which she was heiress did not realize anything like the amount she expected and Jill was left with three hundred a year and some old furniture. She accepts the proposal but later it is broken and she goes out in the world to earn a living as a black and white artist. A friend, Gertrude Hill, helps her to settle down and then she proceeds to live an ordinary life across which several meteoric events flash.

Each chapter represents an incident serious or amusing and each chapter is most interesting. This is quite a modern book to judge from the number of Jill's friends who are divorced, being divorced, or thinking of divorce. Perhaps this aspect of modern life is rather over-emphasized, but as Miss Strange makes everyone live happily ever after, a new complexion is put upon the matter.

After several love affairs Jill marries Bernard Latimer, the old family friend, and she realises her happiness. A very good book for an afternoon in front of a fire.

CHIT-CHAT.

Books on how to succeed in life are fairly common, but none contains more solid, good sense than "18 Tips on Luck," by Herbert N. Casson (Angus and Robertson's Cornstalk Co.). The volume explains why some folk are lucky and some are not, and in the process of doing so instils some valuable lessons. Some idea of the sound sense of it may be gained from just one quotation:— "If you want to be lucky, you must play your own game. You must live your own life, in spite of gossip, and bullying, and poverty, and opposition. You must set out to do something worth while; and keep on doing it—that is one of the best ways that I have ever found to be both happy and prosperous."

Mr. John Masfield is to give us another of his famous adventure stories in "The Midnight Folk," the story of a boy who lived in an old house that had been the home of one Captain Harker, who was reputed to have hidden, near his home, treasure stolen from Santa Barbara Cathedral. Mr. Masfield is a master of the adventure story for grown-ups. The book is being published by Messrs. Heinemann.

Yet another book of London's East End has been written by Mr. Thomas Burke. His latest book, "East of Mansion House," is to be published by Cassell.

"Evoc," the distinguished humorist of "Punch," has been giving his mind to the greatness of England, and in "I'll Tell the World," published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus, he mischievously explains to American visitors English characteristics, English games, and gives a list of phrases to be used by American guests on town or country visits. Tomorrow, the artist, helps "Evoc" to give his message to the world.

"Roamin' in the Gloamin'," one of Sir Henry Lauder's most famous songs, is the title he has chosen for the story of his life, to be published by Messrs. Hutchinson. Sir Henry has a lively sense of the dramatic, and his life has been a full one. His reminiscences will include stories of many distinguished people.

gratitude to the man of genius whose work and influence did so much to give the country an independent literature; but the memories of the recent war and of German occupation have no doubt served to heighten the importance of the event. Ulenspiegel's last words have indeed assumed a prophetic meaning.

PLEASANT PEOPLE.

WHAT A. C. BENSON
WROTE ABOUT.

Mr. A. C. Benson was a novelist who wrote of pleasant, cultured people. If disasters came upon them they were not cataclysmic, the happy ending was to be depended upon, yet at the same time from these sheltered lives he drew a lesson which had beneath it a fine philosophy of life. His last—posthumous—novel, "Crossings" (Heinemann, 7s. 6d. net), is the story of a country house; of the old squire who flung his money away; and of the young man who made good. What the young man had been, what was expected of him, and what he eventually achieved, is indicated in the passage between Walter Garnet, the Squire's son, the Vicar and the Vicar's wife, which we quote.

One can imagine the author's quick chuckle and his keen sense of humour as he reveals the fine ideals of the Vicar supplemented by the practical wisdom of his wife. The Vicar says:—

Young Squire and Vicar.

But my own task is rather to inquire into the spiritual significance of the affair. The inner spirit with which you regard it, whether you are conscious of the hand of God in all this, whether you apprehend the purpose of His chastening, whether you have determined to make the most of this opportunity of suffering—this is what I would be assured of! You will, I know, acquit me of any mean or personal inquisitiveness.

"My mother, said Walter, 'has been brought up in the use of wealth; I myself have never had to trouble about money or position; and I find my mother suddenly impoverished, while I myself have lost my imagined fortune, my standing, and the old family inheritance has all been swept away. I simply try not to think of it.' Such things do happen in the world, but for me to pretend that I consider it a dispensation of mercy and love would be the worst sort of hypocrisy. I submit, because I must."

"But have you reflected, my dear Walter," said Mr. Goring, 'how all these vain shows and false securities can enter into the soul? This trial is meant, I make no doubt at all, to be an act of love to save you from complacency and indifference, to bring out what is best in you, to make you depend upon yourself, to win your own worthy place in the world, rather than to inherit the effortless dignity of your forefathers. Your temptation has been towards idle dreaming and self-pleasing—though I admit you have led, so far as I know, an upright life, and have shown yourself a kind and loving son."

A Fortuitous Affair.

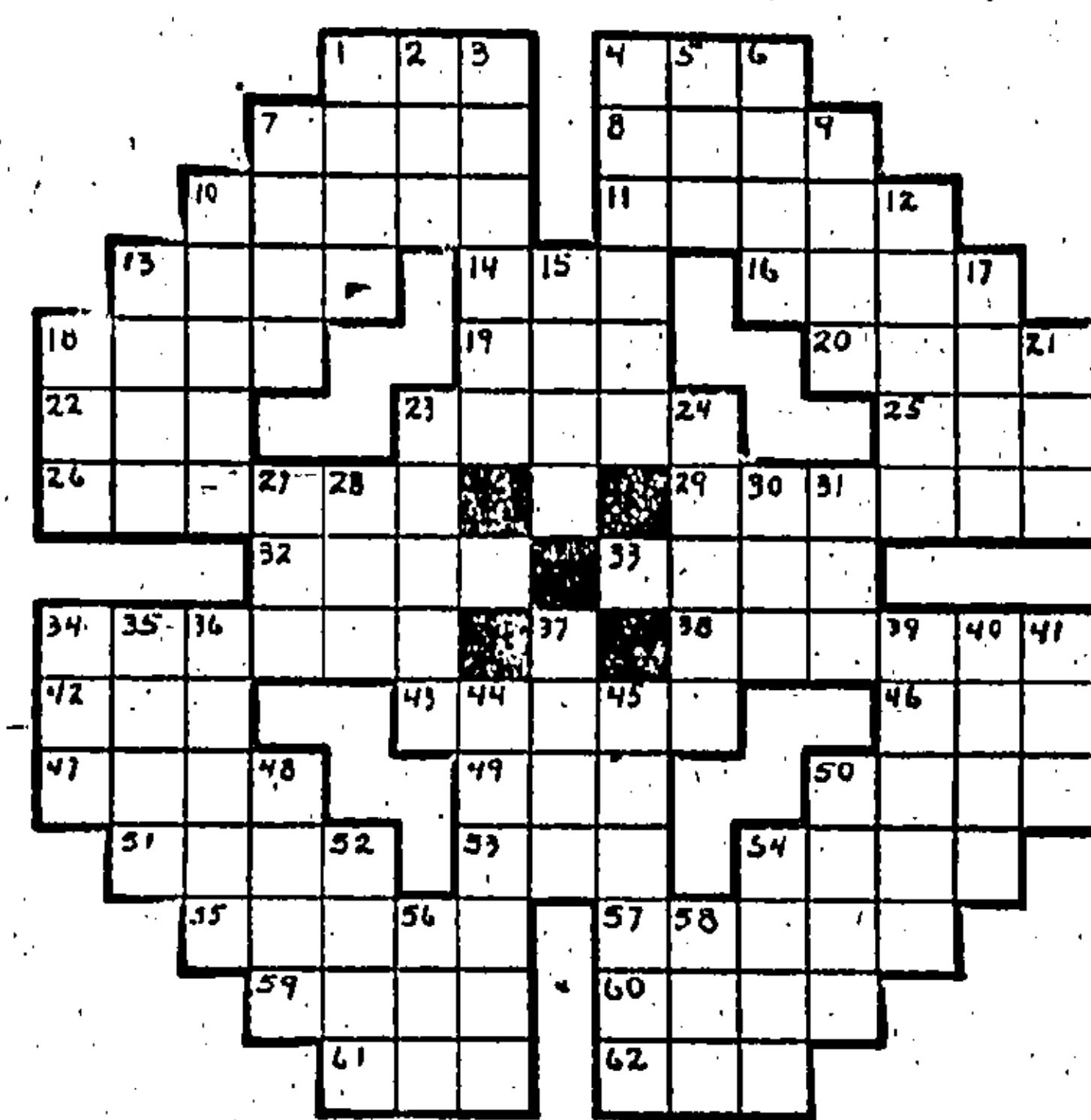
"I see your point," said Walter, 'but it all seems to me a fortuitous affair. There are plenty of landowners that retain their estates. There are even clergymen who live in considerable comfort without these ugly reverses. I don't see why it should fall upon me, and still less upon my mother, who is one of the most guileless and generous people I know."

"You wound me," said Mr. Goring. 'I have often thought that my own comfort has been a grievous obstacle to my spiritual work. But let us not diverge. It has come to you, I have no doubt, because you have the seeds of nobleness in your soul. You can rise to great heights if these seeds are not choked by worldly prosperity. Whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth. If I am myself unchastened it is because I am not worthy of His love."

"Don't feel like this about yourself," Walter said. 'I do know what you and Mrs. Goring do for the place; and I will not forget what you say. There is something within, though I cannot look at it so; I must go forward with what courage I can. I admit that if I could feel sure that there was any personal intention behind my misfortunes it would make a great difference. But honestly I do not. It seems to me just bad luck, though I am perfectly clear that I have got to make the best of it."

DAILY CROSS-WORD PUZZLE.

(This cross-word puzzle has been made by an expert but our readers are warned to look out for occasional phonetic spellings, such as harbor, plow, and altho.)



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HORIZONTAL

1—Earthenware vessel
 4—French coinage unit (pl-abb.)
 7—Study in silence
 8—Prairie highly water
 10—Ascending
 11—What are the chief mountains of South America?
 12—Mistake
 14—Attempt
 16—Cutting from a plant for grafting
 18—Sulk
 19—Falsehood
 20—Hole letting in water
 22—Da removed
 23—Cavity set around with crystals (mining)
 25—Rival
 26—Behind a ship
 28—To possess
 32—To possess
 33—Comfortable with fact
 34—Stick fast
 35—Separated by loads, as type

VERTICAL (Cont.)

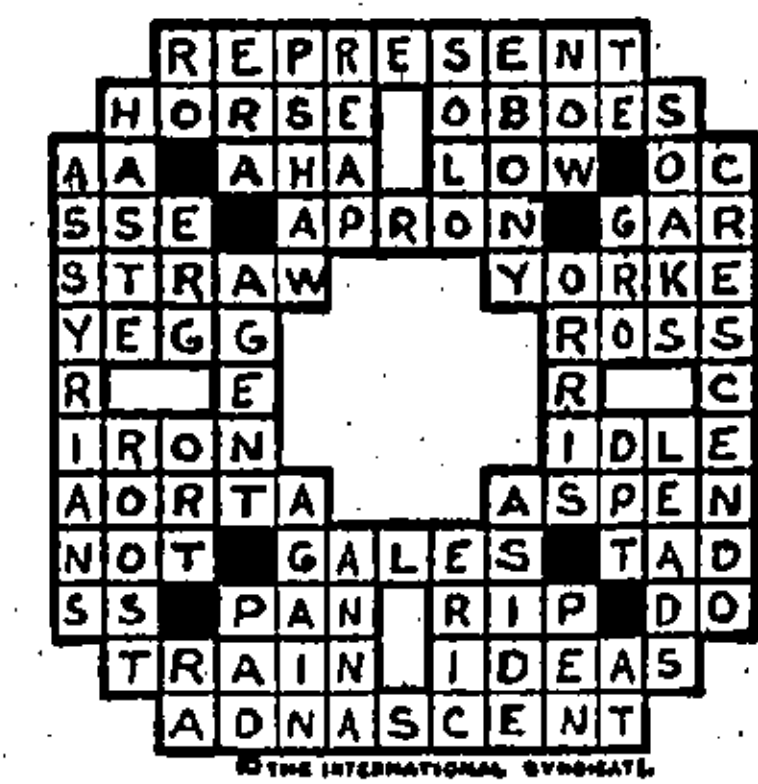
15—Uproar
 17—Two of a kind
 18—Quick sound
 21—Knowledge
 23—Fetters
 24—Occurring among the first in a series
 27—Article
 28—Sailor
 30—Girl's name
 31—A beverage
 34—Find the sum of
 35—Garden earth
 36—Vital organ
 37—Liberate from arrest
 39—An order for money
 40—A compass point
 41—Stain or color
 42—Custom
 43—Kind
 44—Skinned
 46—Moved quickly
 47—Sloppy water
 48—Visible watery vapor
 49—Small valley
 50—Course
 51—Utensil for sifting
 52—13-24th part of a day
 53—Prefix. New

SUGGESTIONS FOR SOLVING CROSS-WORD PUZZLES

Start out by filling in the words of which you feel reasonably sure. These will give you a clue to other words crossing them, and they in turn to still others. A letter belongs in each white space, words starting at the numbered squares and running either horizontally or vertically or both.

(The solution of the above cross-word puzzle will appear in to-morrow's issue along with a new cross-word puzzle.)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION.



©THE INTERNATIONAL SYNDICATE.

"Alas," said Mr. Goring, 'I recognise in you the knightly virtues, but hardly the Christian patience. But it will come—it will come; you will be guided into all truth.' And the worthy man beat a hasty retreat.

The Vicar's Wife.

"That day Walter lunched at the Vicarage. The Vicar was constrained and lost in thought. But when he withdrew, and Mrs. Garnet went to her room to rest, Mrs. Goring led Walter out to the garden and made him sit with her in the summer-house."

"Walter," she said, 'I am afraid you had a bad time with my dear man this morning. He has been churning up his courage for days to speak to you. Probably he vexed you—that unfortunate jargon, you know, which always gets even my bristles up. But he's a much better man than he wants you to think. It is pitiful to me to see what a sacred duty it is to him to do duty himself. But he has been through agencies about this. What did he say?"

"Walter told her. She listened, poking with her stick at the interstices of the tiles. 'Yes, I see,' she said, 'and of course it is all very grimly put; those good people always run their theories too hard. They demand a consistency from life, perhaps from God, which one can't get. It isn't a mechanical affair, like the tide and the sunset. There is a personal force behind the world—at least I think so—which ebbs and flows just as we do."

You have been cuddled and wrapped up and cosseted in a dreadful way, and there must be a lot of good stuff behind for you to have come out of it a reasonable person at all. And I do honestly think it gives you a big chance. What you needed was to be thrown into the sea and made to swim. You haven't gone to the bad, you are perfectly sound and straight, but you are still entangled in some of these cobwebs; you must step out, make friends, give yourself away, blunder, tumble; I don't care what happens so long as you can find yourself. The danger was that you would be helplessly shut up in yourself, as you were, you know, dear Walter. You didn't trust anybody, you looked down on simple people, you followed your own fancies. I don't mean, dear, that you were superior or stand-offish, but the difference is that you have come out of a little stuffy room into the wind and rain."

"Walter got up from his chair, put his arms round Mrs. Goring and kissed her. 'Thank you a thousand times,' he said. 'I did think there was something in what the Vicar said, though I rather stifled me. But I see what you mean, and you are perfectly right, every single word."

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BORSTAL.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL
TONE.

FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS.

Borstal, which to millions of people is just a music-hall joke, was twenty-five years ago a grim convict prison in Kent between Chatham and Rochester, built on high ground which slopes towards the Medway, writes H. V. Morton. A little over twenty years ago a band of boys chained together like desperate murderers was halted before the gates of Borstal, the girl was shot back, and a warden regarded the miserable little group with more than ordinary interest, for here was a new bee in the bonnet of the Prison Commissioners! If warders could conceivably make a joke he might have asked: "Have you brought your turn of 'Turn sharp left for the Savoy Hotel' because it had been ordered for the first time in the history of crime and punishment that the young offender was to have no contact with the old offender."

Little Convicts.

In those hard days it must have seemed an amazing piece of softness. Special cells were allotted to the boys, badly lit and dreary gaoi clothes were issued to them, and to all appearances they were little convicts—with this difference: they never met the old hand, they never listened to his vain-glorious stories; they never had the chance to hero-worship a distinguished criminal.

That, twenty odd years ago, was the beginning of Borstal. Just an experiment. In 1908 Parliament recognised the scheme, and from that day onwards the Borstal system has grown, developed, separated itself from the prison regime, and taken a front place in State idealism.

I found the gates of Borstal wide open. A company of lads in football shorts and jerseys, with spades on their shoulders, marched smartly out towards the farm-lands. They were the same type which I had seen under observation at Wandsworth Prison, but now vastly different in physique and expression. The pasty pallor had gone from their faces; their narrow chests were expanded by hard work and games; they walked with an erect, soldierly swing. They were as hefty and healthy a band of lads as you will see anywhere in England.

Master's Question.

A man in a tweed coat and flannel trousers strolled across the courtyard. One look labelled him as a public school man. He was, I gathered, a master. He touched a boy on the shoulder:—

"How are you getting on, Jones?"

"All right, sir."

"Heard from home lately?"

"Last week, sir."

"How's your brother?"

"Getting better, sir."

The conversation struck the keynote of Borstal. It is not a prison; it is not, on the surface, a reformatory, it is more like an agricultural and industrial college run on public school lines. There are no uniforms in Borstal. The masters and assistant masters wear mufti. There are no jingling keys, and nothing to remind a boy of the police force. His masters are University and public school men who, in spite of I imagine, slender worldly prospects, have flung themselves into this work with missionary zeal.

"We try," said the Governor, Dr. Methven, "to create the public school spirit and to rouse a keen sense of house rivalry in work and play."

He explained, as we walked across the transformed prison square, that the 400 odd boys in Borstal are split up into four houses—four gaunt, yellow brick, barnack-like buildings which face each other across the square. "The houses of Borstal are Blake's, Eccle's, Windel's and Rich's named after the late Major Blake, Governor of Pentonville, Captain Eccle and Dr. Windel past governors of Borstal, and Colonel Rich governor of Liverpool Prison."

As I looked at these "houses" the thought ran through my head that perhaps two cat burglars, meeting unexpectedly on a water-pipe, might whisper, "Hallo, weren't you at Eton?" and the scornful reply, "No; I played centre forward for Blake's!" but I banished this cynical and unworthy thought and entered Blake's.

Kit Inspection.

On the ground floor the boys take their meals at tables scrubbed white. Upstairs is the long dormitory. There was a kit inspection that day. Each boy's clothes brushes, towels, razor, soap, spare boots etc., were neatly set out at the foot of his comfortable bed. He has his own locker. He is permitted a family picture gallery.

The pictures with which these lads, locked away from the community for two and three years, cheer themselves in their captivity are of brothers and sisters, dogs sometimes a man who is evidently father and invariably a woman who is mother. They save up the picture postcards sent to them from time to time, and the greatest sin against the community in Borstal is for a boy to interfere with the family portraits of another exile!

Dog-Tired.

"When they go to bed," explained Dr. Methven, "they are so dog-

IT PAYS!

NEWSPAPER COLUMNS FOR
ADVERTISERS.

BIGGER TURNOVER.

"Newspaper advertising will be greater in volume than ever in 1928," said Sir Charles Higham, in an address at the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce.

"Retailers are buying more space than ever in the advertising columns of the newspapers, many of them realising for the first time that this is the cheapest method of profitably increasing turnover."

"The Government has found Press advertising very profitable also. During the last three years that they have advertised the British Industries Fair, it has grown fast—in fact, this year's Fair is nearly twice the size of the Fair four years ago."

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MINERS' M.P.'S.

REDUCTION OF £50 IN SALARY
ACCEPTED.

It was officially announced recently, when the Executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain met in London, that the miners' representatives in Parliament had agreed to forego £50 each from the salaries paid them by the federation.

The decision followed an interview between the officials of the executive and the representatives of the miners' parliamentary group, and was made in view of the depression in the coalfields.

Mr. A. J. Cook, the miners' secretary, in making the announcement, said:—

"Representatives of the Miners' Federation in Parliament receive as a salary £650, plus £10 for incidental expenses. After a sympathetic interview with members of the miners' group it has been decided that the salaries of the members representing the miners shall be reduced to £600, plus the £10 for incidental expenses."

lired that they just fall asleep. A master parades the dormitory all night. We watch carefully for the boy who might infect others, and we mark him down."

"What is your main difficulty when these boys come to you fresh from their escapades?"

"They have no discipline. They cannot settle to anything. They have never been ordered about. They have been in the habit of pleasing themselves from their earliest years, staying out late, going home when they wanted to; leaving work if they got weary of it. This is their first meeting with discipline, and they hate it for two or three months."

A Real Rebel.

We saw a real bad lad at work. A genuine rebel. He was standing in an enclosed yard breaking flint with a long iron rod. His foot was not so good as that of the others. He was still unrepentant. He still refused to work, so all day long he faced the pile of flint, as hard as his heart, and pounded away at it hour after hour.

"Most of them give in before they have finished the pile," said the Governor. "It is the only thing to break down their rebellion. After a bit they recognise that there is something more important in life than their own personal desires, and they, in most cases, buckle to and enjoy their work."

The play of Borstal consists of football and hockey, cricket and other games. There are sixteen football teams. There is a library. Two boys now in Borstal will read nothing but Henry James! How they acquired this taste is a mystery which even Dr. Methven cannot explain! The work of Borstal consists of various technical classes and farm work.

The farm is interesting. Borstal produces its own wheat, its own milk and dairy produce, its own vegetables.

Fat Stock.

There is a shoeing forge in which boys shoe the remarkably fine Dartmoor horses; there are cow-sheds and pigsties, containing at the moment two enormous beasts which, it is hoped, will carry off the prize at the Rochester Fat Stock Show.

The five technical sheds are fitted with lathes and other machines from the War Disposals Board. Here classes of boys carry out Government contracts and at the same time learn a number of trades.

The essence of the Borstal treatment is this: It is assumed that, no matter how bad a boy may have been, there is still something decent in him. That assumed decency is appealed to every day. He is on trust not to do certain things. He is on his honour to stand by his masters, his pals, and to respect himself.

"You know," said Dr. Methven, "as I was leaving, 'there is something good in every bad boy if you can only get at it. It sometimes lies deep down in him, and you have to fight to reach it.' But 'it is there'."

That, in a few words, is Borstal.

NOT "MIXERS."

OBSERVATIONS FROM
OXFORD.

AMERICANS SHINE.

Generalisations are usually unsafe, but had I wished to generalise with safety I should have said that Americans at Oxford mix with the English undergraduates better than the English do with one another.

But an American Rhodes scholar, Mr. John W. Chase, has now spoiled my chance of saying this; for he says the absolute opposite. I see quoted from a New York paper the remark, "American students who are Rhodes scholars at Oxford do not mix with the English students there."

During my three years at Oxford there have been six American Rhodes scholars in my college, and I have been surprised to notice how they mix with all the men of their year, while many Englishmen do not even find out the names of all the men.

The reason for this, I learn from one of my American friends, was that all Americans had drummed into them the idea of equality, so they became acquainted with everybody. An Englishman, I was told, made perhaps four real friends, while the average American had no time to make a real friend; he was too busy with his acquaintances.

It must be confessed that the English public school man at Oxford does not mix well with the grammar school men. This is not due to snobbishness. It is due to natural timidity and lack of understanding.

I once said to M., a man I know very well: "What do you think of C.?" (C. was an extremely delightful man who came from a grammar school).

M. replied: "I like him all right, but I have not spoken to him very much. I asked him to tea when he first came up. He came, but he never asked me back, so I naturally concluded that he did not wish to know me."

I pointed out to M. that perhaps C. could not afford to ask him back. This did not appear to have struck him before, so from a lack of understanding about C. he had developed a timidity with regard to him and actually generalised this into a fear of all who came from grammar schools.

Naturally, C. had pretty much the same feeling about M., which he had developed into a feeling about all public school men. The result is extremely deplorable—public school cliques and grammar school cliques. That is the state of affairs that seems to me to destroy one of the real aims of Oxford—to get rid of cliques.

The best means of destroying this nuisance I have considered to be the Americans: they act as leaven. They recognise no cliques, and very often they prove the means of breaking them down.—By a Member of the Staff of "Isis."

NOT AN AGENT.

STORY OF A TAILOR IN
MANILA.

Down Manila way where the climate has an inclination to sort of make people take things for granted without troubling to investigate, the good people of the city were startled recently to learn that a Shankhalander, one Joe Sussman, ex-soldier, was wanted by the Secret Service authorities of Manila; that he was strongly suspected of being an agent of the Soviet government; that he had arrived in Manila from Shanghai as a stowaway one U. S. S. Chaumont, and that he was evading arrest.

Newspapers carried the story that an ex-soldier was sought as a Red and that he was playing a game of hide-and-seek with the authorities. Manila was quite stirred up over the story and in the clubs and bars Sussman was denounced as a rabid Red.

Quite by chance the story reached the ears of Sussman himself. Promptly he reported to the Secret Service headquarters and gave those surprised officers a bit of information.

Among other things it was learned that:—

1.—Sussman is a law-abiding Jewish-American tailor.

2.—He did not stow away on the Chaumont.

3.—He is not a Red and has never had any connections whatsoever with the Soviet government.

4.—He had never heard of the arms ship Praga.

5.—He is peaceful, courteous and gentlemanly and is not engaged in any Bolshevistic propaganda in the Islands.

6.—He went to Manila for the purpose of opening a navy tailoring establishment.

Sussman lived in Shanghai a number of years and is well and favourably known to many men here. At one time he worked on the U. S. S. Pittsburgh and later served as an officer on the Dollar liner "President Madison."

Asked if he was an agent of the Soviet government, Sussman gestured with his arms and replied: "Oh, what foolishness."

SIR JOHN SIMON.

RETIREMENT FROM PRACTICE
AT THE BAR.

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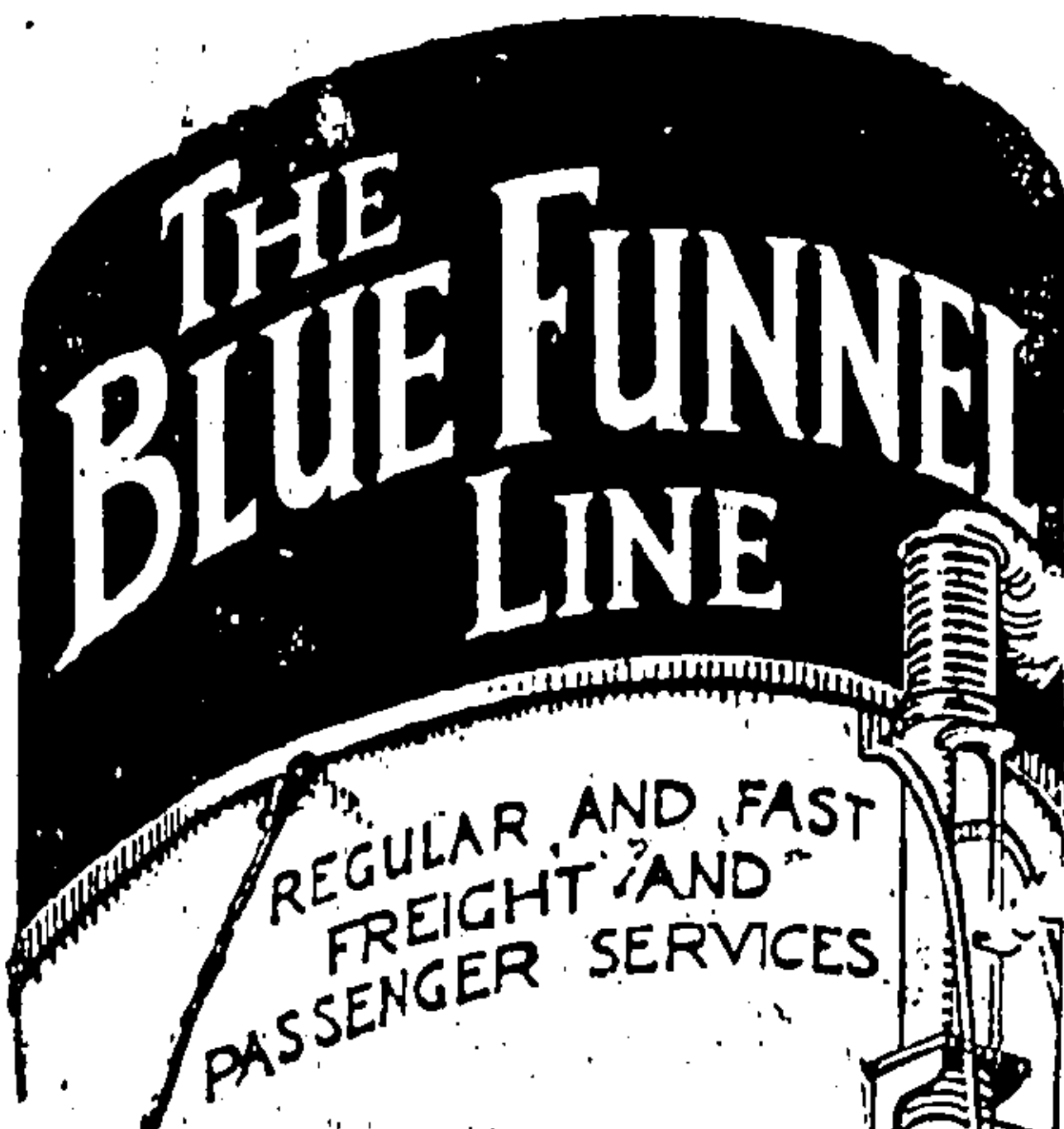
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"HECTOR" 22nd Feb. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow
"GALICIA" 29th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"PHILOTTETUS" 29th Mar. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"AENEAS" 3rd Apr. Marseilles, London, Rotterdam & Glasgow

LIVERPOOL SERVICE.

"MENTOR" 20th Feb. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"ACHILLES" 27th Mar. Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"POLYTHEMUS" 1st Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow
"BELLEROPHON" 20th Apr. Genoa, Havre, Liverpool & Glasgow

PACIFIC SERVICE.

"LYGON" 9th Mar. New York, Boston & Baltimore
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NEW YORK SERVICE.

"LYGON" 9th Mar. New York, Boston & Baltimore
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It is notified for information that the via Wireless rate to EUROPE has been reduced from \$2.05 to \$1.70 per word from 7th instant.

Rates and further particulars on application to the RADIO COUNTER, 1st Floor, Government Building.
Telegraphic Address: "Persons and firms having correspondents in the places named above should in order to avoid delay to telegrams received by radio register their telegraphic address immediately."

INWARD MAILS.

From	Per	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Straits	Yuen Sang.	
Straits	Tiawan.	
Shanghai & Amoy	Liangchow.	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10		
Europe via Negapatam (letters only London 12th Jan.)	Saarlant.	
Manila	Emp. of Australia.	
Japan & Shanghai	Kuino Maru.	
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11		
Shanghai & Swatow	Shanbung.	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	Pres. Van Buren.	
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13		
Europe via Negapatam (papers only, London 12th Jan. and parcels 3rd Jan.)	Karmala.	
U.S.A., Honolulu, Japan & Shanghai	Pres. Jackson.	
Manila	Pres. Pierce.	
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14		
Japan & Shanghai	D'Artagnan.	
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15		
Straits	Fook Sang.	
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16		
Australia & Manila	Tango Maru.	
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17		
Japan & Shanghai	Khyber.	

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	Per	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Wei Hai Wei	Wai Shing	3.30 p.m.
Sam Shu and Wuchow	Tai Ming	4.30 p.m.
Fort Bayard, Hoihow, Pakhoi & Haiphong	Hanoi	5 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10		
Hoihow & Haiphong	New Mithilde	8.30 a.m.
Haiphong	West Faralot	10.30 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy & Foochow	Hai Ching	Noon
Shanghai	Sochow	5 p.m.
Japan	Yuen Sang	5 p.m.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11		
Hoihow, Pakhoi and Haiphong	Kamo Maru.	10.30 a.m.
Haiphong	Tonkin	12.30 p.m.
Manila	Pres. Van Buren	5 p.m.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12		
Swatow, Amoy & Foochow	Kiangsu Maru	9 a.m.
Bangkok via Swatow	Hozan Maru	9 a.m.
Jaya via Batavia	Tjondari	9 a.m.

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only.

PUBLIC MEMORIAL.

Tribute to the Late Earl Haig.

COMMONS' RESOLUTION.

Labour Amendment For A Select Committee Defeated.

London, Yesterday.
In the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. Baldwin, a resolution was passed in favour of petitioning the King to direct that a monument be erected to the public charge in memory of the late Earl Haig with an inscription paying tribute to his illustrious career and devoted services. A Labour amendment moved by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald in favour of the appointment of a Select Committee to consider the most fitting form of a national memorial to Earl Haig, "in view of his known concern for the comfort and welfare of ex-Service men and their widows and dependants," was defeated by 220 votes to 103.—Reuter.

STORMS IN JAPAN.

DAMAGE TO MANY SHIPS.

FISHERMEN KILLED.

Tokyo, Yesterday.
Violent snowstorms in Northern Japan have caused a number of deaths, damage to shipping and a general disruption of communications.

The wreck include eight motor boats, which capsized off the Hokkaido coast. The bodies of 13 fishermen have been washed ashore and many others are believed to have been drowned.—Reuter.

CIVIL RESEARCH.

PREMIER'S REQUESTS TO COMMITTEE.

London, Yesterday.
The Prime Minister has asked the Committee of Civil Research to consider the operation and effects of the present restrictions on rubber exports and to consider whether the restrictions should be left unchanged, modified or removed; also to submit recommendations, regarding the policy to be adopted and the steps to give effect thereto.

The committee's proceedings and report will be confidential; in the meantime the existing scheme will remain unchanged pending the consideration of the Committee's report.—Reuter.

ATLANTIC SERVICE.

COMDR. BURNEY'S AIR SCHEME.

Washington, Yesterday.
Commander Burney's London and New York air service scheme was discussed by the Cabinet, who instructed Mr. Hoover to investigate as to means towards assisting American interests desiring to participate therein.

The Navy is prepared to allow airships the use of the landing mast in New Jersey.—Reuter's American Service.

[A Reuter telegram, dated London, January 12, stated: Comdr. Burney, M.P., has asked for New York to discuss with American financiers the establishment of a tri-weekly Anglo-American air service.]

AIR ATTACK.

RELIEF OF MEXICAN TROOPS.

Mexico City, Yesterday.
Federal guardsmen aboard a train between Guadalajara and Manzanillo were hard pressed by attacking revolutionaries, who had succeeded in dynamiting a passenger coach, when Federal aeroplanes swooped down and bombed the rebels.

The latter scattered leaving 14 killed. Four Federalists were injured.—Reuter.

VOTE OF CENSURE.

NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT RESIGNING.

Oslo, Yesterday.
Parliament by 86 votes to 68 carried a Radical vote of censure against the Government which is consequently resigning.—Reuter.

NO PROGRESS.

Germany and Russian Trade.

UNFAIR METHODS.

Despite Big Credit Business Not Improved.

Berlin, Yesterday.
In spite of the £15,000,000 credit guaranteed by the German Government with the object of stimulating Russo-German trade, the expected improvement therein did not materialise last year. Numerous complaints have been made by Germans of unfair Russian business methods and violations of the Russo-German commercial treaty.

For the purpose of clearing up various points in dispute and giving a fresh impetus to German trade with Russia a Russian commercial delegation comprising the President of the Russian State Bank, Mr. Scheinmann, the Traffic Commissioner, Mr. Rudzutak and three trade experts have arrived at Berlin to confer with representatives of the German Government and trade and industry.—Reuter.

900 PER CENT!

(Continued from Page 1.)

been given for, say, \$100 defendant would retain it and make out a forged debit note in the name of the shipping agents and present it to his employers, this being for something like \$400. He would get \$400 from his employers, put a forged receipt on the forged bill, give this to his employers, tear up the genuine bill and pocket the \$300 difference.

The way in which this practise was discovered, continued counsel, was that, after defendant had gone and a new employee collected the freight bills, the plaintiffs discovered that for some reason or other the shipping agents, who were the same as before, were charging about 75 per cent. less than they appeared to have done for a number of years. They then interviewed the shipping agents and discovered that for a number of years the latter had only been paid 25 per cent. of the amounts given to defendant by plaintiffs for payment of freights. The receipts plaintiffs had received from the defendant were then discovered to be forged.

A Warrant Issued.

A warrant was issued for the defendant's arrest in September last but he had fled the Colony and there had since been no trace of his whereabouts.

Proceedings, indicated counsel, had been taken under Foreign Attachment under which the defendant's property could be sold and the proceeds paid into Court.

Counsel then quoted law in support of his contention that it was not always necessary to bring a criminal case before a civil action, evidence also being called to show that everything possible had been done to get to know the defendants whereabouts and to bring about his arrest.

The manager of the plaintiff firm went into the witness box, giving proof of the manner in which the firm had been defrauded.

A "Remarkable Thing."

Asked by His Lordship (Sir H. C. Gollan) whether it was not a remarkable thing that the firm had paid so much more than the actual freight for so long a period, plaintiff replied that at the time of the European War freights were very high.

His Lordship pointed out that the shipments with which they were concerned were several years after the war.

Plaintiff stated that the defendant had also put on his forged debit notes a greater cubic capacity than actually taken up by the cargo.

His Lordship also commented on the trust placed in the defendant by the plaintiff firm. Admittedly he was an old servant, but it was rather remarkable that a man drawing \$21 a month should have been trusted to such an extent that any statement produced by him was accepted without check. He (His Lordship) would have thought that disaster would have overtaken the plaintiff firm years ago. The case is proceeding.

INDIAN RESERVE.

Bank Bill Again Discussed.

A GOVERNMENT DEFEAT.

Member Allowed To Vote After Count Is Taken.

New Delhi, Yesterday.
In the discussion on the Reserve Bank Bill Sir H. Blackett repeated his previous warnings against the Assembly trying to force unacceptable amendments on the Government and said that under no circumstances would the Government support a Bank whose directors were selected by the Legislature.

Subsequently the amendment to delete the provision for the election of three directors by the Legislature, one of whom would represent commerce and industry was defeated.

Later, however, a division on Clause eight, providing for the appointment of a directorate which Sir H. Blackett moved resulted in a tie of 49 votes, but before the result was handed to the President it was intimated that Mr. Chaudhury, who had refused to vote in the lobby, had changed his mind and wished to vote against the clause.

The President allowed Mr. Chaudhury to vote. This turned the tables against the Government. Sir H. Blackett said the Government would now consider whether the House wanted the Bill. The House then adjourned.—Reuter.

THE PRAYER BOOK.

HOUSE OF LAITY VOTES APPROVAL.

London, Yesterday.

The House of Laity by 196 votes to 80 has generally approved the Prayer Book measure.—Reuter.

Emotional Debate.

Prior to the meeting of the House of Laity the three Houses met at prayer when the Archbishop of Canterbury announced it was estimated that under 700 churches practised the continuous reservation of the Sacrament.

The Bishop of Canterbury on Monday had intimated that the refusal of general approval by one House would summarily bring the Prayer Book measure to an end; hence the interest attaches to yesterday's emotional and unfinished debate.

The Laity, whose 352 members constitute the largest section of the Church Assembly, had a score of speakers. To-day, Lord Selborne, presiding, said, amid cries of dissent, that the majority of 30 English members in favour of the measure in the House of Commons division voiced the opinion of the English people and the opinion English People would prevail in the long run despite the Scots and Irish. Lord Selborne exhorted the House to put the Commons entirely behind them in voting.—Reuter.

BROAD HIGHWAY.

A TRANS-CONTINENTAL ROAD.

Havana, Yesterday.

The Pan-American Conference has adopted the project of a Trans-Continental highway to stretch the entire length of North, Central and South America.—Reuter's American Service.

Paris, Feb. 8.—The King of Afghanistan declared to "Le Matin" how delighted he was with his entertainment in France and how deeply impressed he had been by all he had seen. He added that he realized that a nation possessing such a rich past ought to be great in the present and the future.—Havas.

BOYCOTT BAN.

MADRAS MAGISTRATE'S ACTION.

Madras, Yesterday.

The Chief Magistrate of the Presidency has banned for a month meetings by the Boycott Committee held for the purpose of organising a hartal. During the Simon Commission's visit to Madras publication of posters and the organisation of volunteers for propaganda are also prohibited.—Reuter.

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